CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION

L'ASSOCIATION DES CAMPS DU CANADA - PUBLICATION OFFICIELLE

VOL. 38, NO. 3
WINTER 1987

IN THIS ISSUE

The year 1987 begins with a great edition of Canadian Camping Magazine, full of information and good reading. This issue's Personality Profile reflects the major contribution to camp program, camp spirit and camp literature by Mary S. Edgar. These impacts were felt not only at Glen Bernard Camp near her home in Sundridge, Ontario, but they can be traced into virtually all our Camps across the country.

Committee Notes and Camping from Coast to Coast tell us what the C.C.A. and Provincial Camping Associations are doing midstride to next summer. There are several program articles for your use, as well as more preparation for the International Camping Congress.

In June of last year, Camp Oconto in Ontario experienced a devastating Dining Hall fire three days before opening for the summer. There are some valuable hints on crisis management contained in an article by Bruce and Lisa Wilson, the Directors of Camp Oconto.

We look forward to greeting many of our camping friends in Washington, D.C. in March.

DANS CETTE LIVRAISON

L'année 1987 commence avec une bonne édition de Canadian Camping Magazine, plein de renseignements et de lecture interessante. Le profil de personnalité de cette livraison présente la contribution exceptionnelle qu'a donné Mary S. Edgar au programme, au moral et à la litterature de camping. Elle a fait de fortes impressions non seulement sur Glen Bernard Camp près de son foyer à Sundridge, mais expratique aussi sur tous les camps du pays.

Lisez les notes des Comités et Camping D'une Côte à l'autre pour découvrir ce que font l'A.C.C. et les associations provincielles à mi-chemin de l'été. On trouvera utile les plusieurs articles de programme; il y a aussi plus de préparatifs pour l'International Camping Congress (le congrès de camping international).

Juin passé, Camp Oconto à l'Ontario a connu un feu devastateur dans le réfectoire trois jours avant d'ouvrir pour l'été. Il y a un article de Bruce et Lisa Wilson qui contient des avis.

Nous attendons avec impatience le plaisir de voir en mars un grand nombre de nos de Camping à Washington, D.C.

BEHIND THIS ISSUE
DIRIGEANT CETTE LIVRAISON

STAFF		PERSONNEL
Editor-in-Chief	Jack Pearse	Editeur en chef
Senior Editors	Jane McCutcheon John Jorgenson	Editeurs supérieres
Regional Editors	Brenda McFarlane—Eastern Liz Greenway—Central Mickey Johnstone—Western	Editeurs régionaux
Office Staff	Lisa Pearse Wendy Muir Carol Sportun	Personnel du bureau
Translation	Jill Grant	Traduction
Printers	Cober Printing, Kitchener, Ont.	Imprimeurs
BOARD of DIRECTORS		**Conseil D'administration**
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS		**Les Officiers Executif**
President	Janet Adamson, Toronto, Ont.	Présidente
Past President	Jocelyn Palm, Toronto, Ont.	Ancienne Présidente
Secretary	Patti Thom, Toronto, Ont.	Secrétaire
Treasurer	Skip Connett, Thornhill, Ont.	Trésorier
Vice Pres. (Eastern)	Ian Fowler, Moncton, N.B.	Vice-président
Vice Pres. (Western)	Jan James, Ardrossan, Alta.	Vice-présidente
Vice Pres. (Quebec)	Ken Willis, Magog, Que.	Vice-président
Vice Pres. (Ontario)	Sally Moore, Toronto, Ont.	Vice-présidente
President Emeritus	F.M. Van Wagner, Point Claire, Que.	Président émérité
PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES		**Représentants Provinciaux**
Newfoundland	Frank O'Connor	La Terre Neuve
Nova Scotia	Kelley Byrne	La Nouvelle Ecosse
New Brunswick	Dan Soucy	Le Nouveau Brunswick
Quebec	Colette Pouliot-Marier	Le Quebec
Ontario	Fred Okada	L'Ontario
Manitoba	Grant Platts	Le Manitoba
Saskatchewan	Penny Wingert	Le Saskatchewan
Alberta	Bob Sperling	L'Alberta
British Columbia	Jack Way	La Colombie Britannique
CCA COMMITTEES		**Comités ACC**
Archives	Bruno Morawetz, Peterborough, Ont.	Les Archives
Professional Development	Dorothy Walter, Toronto, Ont.	Le Développement Professional
National Conferences and Workshops	Glenn Barned, Victoria, BC/CB	Les Ateliers et les Conférences Nationales
French Language	Gerard Bachand, Rawdon, Que.	Le Français
Fund Raising	Jack Pearse, Waterloo, Ont.	Accumulation des Fonds
Environment	Jean Funk, Sherwood Pk., Alta.	Le milieu
Publications	Nancy Barker, Seebe, Alta.	Publications
Magazine	Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ont.	Revue
1987 Congress Liaison	Dave Sands, Toronto, Ont.	Liaison du congrès 1987
Adventure into the Past Liaison	Cliff Labbett, Toronto, Ont.	Liaison du voyage dans le passé
Immigration	Barry Lowes, Toronto, Ont.	L'immigration

NATIONAL OFFICE	BUREAU NATIONAL
Canadian Camping Association 1806 Avenue Road, Ste. 2 Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1 (416) 781-4717	Association des Camps du Canada 1806 Avenue Road, Ste. 2 Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1 (416) 781-4717
Administrative Secretary: Irene Knapp	Secrétaire administrative

CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — Janet Adamson 3
GOT A MINUTE? 3
CAMPING FROM COAST TO COAST 4
WHAT'S IN A NAME? 6
COMMITTEE NOTES 7
TRIBUTE TO BIG COVE CAMP — Kelley Byrne 8
PERSONALITY PROFILE — MARY S. EDGAR — Barbara and John Gilchrist 9
BETWEEN THE COVERS — Nancy Barker 16
UNDER OPEN SKIES 17
FIRE! FEU! — Lisa and Bruce Wilson 20
THE WHOLE DINING HALL WAS ENGULFED IN FIRE 21
CAMP CHEBOYGAN 23
GOING UP THE WALL — Bernie Woods 24
1987 O.C.A. CONFERENCE 25
BUBBY NASH AWARD 26
A PROGRAM PARADE 27
CANADA CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION 28
SOME THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY 28
2ND INTERNATIONAL CAMPING CONGRESS 29
N.I.U. TEACHER EDUCATION 30

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As 1987 unfolds there are two endeavours of which CCA / ACC can be superbly proud.

The first is the recently published Curriculum for Camp Directors. **Dorothy Walter** and the Professional Development Committee worked diligently for several years on this project and the final result is a document that will enable all camping professionals in Canada to involve themselves in enhanced professional development. In each Province, there are projects underway to promote the use of this Curriculum, and I urge you to become involved.

The Professional Development Committee chaired by **Dorothy Walter** and other committee members namely, **Stan Talesnick, Marjorie Booth,** and **John Wilkinson,** is to be congratulated on this project. As well, Fitness Canada, who encouraged, advised and gave financial support, are to be thanked.

The second highlight of 1987 of which we can be proud is the Second International Camping Congress to be held very soon in Washington. CCA/ACC, through our representative **David Sands,** has played an integral part in the planning of this event. The success of the First International Camping Congress in 1983 in Toronto led the way for this second Congress.

Over one hundred Canadians will be among the delegates. Each Province in our Federation will be represented and we can look forward to a sparkling event, including a reception at the Canadian Embassy in Washington. I look forward to seeing many of you in Washington and to my visits to British Columbia in March, Newfoundland in April and Quebec in May.

And a final newsworthy item! We are pleased to welcome **Sally Moore** as the new C.C.A./A.C.C. Vice-President for Ontario. We look forward to her contributions. Congratulations, Sally.

by Janet Adamson
President, C.C.A./A.C.C.

UN MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

Comme 1987 se déroule, il y a deux efforts desquels l'ACC/CAA peut être superbêment fier.

Le premier est le récemment publi "Curriculum for Camp Directors". Dorothy Walter et le comité du développement professionnel ont travaillé avec application pendant plusieurs années sur ce projet, et le résultat final est un document qui permettra à tous les professionnels de camping du Canada de participer au développement professionnel augmenté. Dans chaque province, on a commencé des projets pour promouvoir l'usage de ce programme, et je vous conseille vivement d'y participer.

Il faut féliciter le comité du développement professionnel qui est présidé par Dorothy Walter et qui a les membres suivants; Stan Talesnick, Marjorie Booth, et John Wilkinson de ce projet. De plus, nous remercions Fitness Canada pour leur encouragement, pour leurs avis, et pour leur soutien financier.

Le deuxième clou de 1987 duquel nous pouvons être fiers est le deuxième International Camping Congress qui aura lieu très bientôt à Washington. L'ACC/CCA, grâce à notre représentant David Sands a beaucoup contribué à l'organisation de cet événement.

La réussite du premier International Camping Congress en 1983 à Toronto a montré le chemin pour ce deuxième.

Plus de cent Canadiens seront parmi les Congressistes. Chaque province de notre fédération sera représenté et nous pourons nous promettre un événement étincelant, y compris une réception à l'ambassade du Canada à Washington. J'attends avec impatience le plaisir de voir beaucoup de vous à Washington et de mes visites à la Colombie Britannique en mars, à la Terre Neuve en avril et au Québec en mai.

Et une nouvelle finale! Nous avons le plaisir d'acceuillir Sally Moore comme nouvelle vice-présidente de l'ACC/CCA pour l'Ontario. Nous attendons avec impatience ses contributions. Félicitations, Sally.

Got A Minute? Avez-vous un instant?

Here are some 'newsy' items, excerpted from the minutes of the most recent meeting of the C.C.A./A.C.C. Board of Management Meeting. This is information about **your** Association. If you are interested in more information on what is happening in C.C.A./A.C.C., contact your Regional Vice-President. C.C.A./A.C.C. works only when we do!!

— Did you know that the C.C.A./A.C.C. is looking for a Promotions Chairman, and an Assistant National Conference and Workshop Chairman? Are you interested?

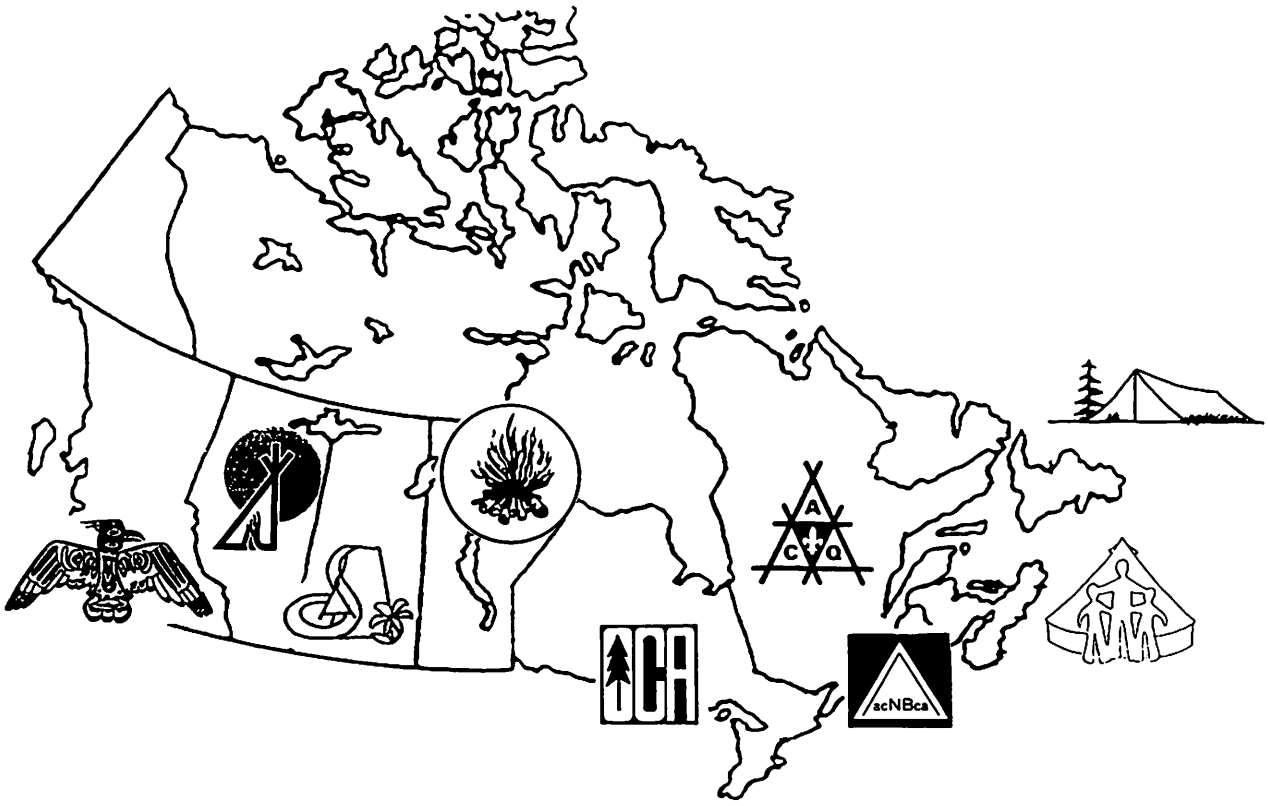
— Our French language committee is in the process of developing a new publication of Camps in Canada. Great idea!

— C.C.A./A.C.C. hopes to publish a revised edition of the Woodsmanship Leader's Guide. Wait for more news.

— A new revised statistics form is being prepared by C.C.A./A.C.C. Let's all be conscientious about supporting our Association by completing this important form as accurately and as quickly as possible.

— Did you know that camping is alive and well in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories? Our western region vice-president, Jan James, visited 3 centres in 4 days, and made 17 speeches to a variety of groups involved in residential and day camping. The Alberta Camping Association hopes to lend support to the camping people in this vast region of our country.

CAMPING: From Coast To Coast D'une Côte A L'Autre



ATLANTIC REGIONAL NEWS

by IAN FOWLER, VICE-PRESIDENT (ATLANTIC REGION)

The past few months have been relatively quiet for Camping Associations on the east coast. While all have been busy carrying on day-to-day housekeeping and planning matters, a high level of activity has occurred.

My travels have taken me to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island during the past two months, with hopes of visiting our friends of the Newfoundland Camping Association early in 1987. Both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have reviewed and adjusted action plans, which will provide a variety of activities for their members in upcoming years. Efforts are still being made to establish a Provincial Association in P.E.I. and I am hopeful this will occur in 1987. Newfoundland has continued to flourish under Frank O'Connor's leadership and keeps the camping spirit alive in Canada's youngest Province.

I am confident heading into 1987 that the role of the C.C.A. and its federated members will become of even greater importance as the camping movement continues to grow, serving not only youth but all those participating in a structured outdoor recreation experience.

LES NOUVELLES DE LA RÉGION ATLANTIQUE

par Ian Fowler, vice-président

Pendant ces mois-ci, les associations des camps à la côte de l'est ont été tranquilles. Au même temps que tout le monde s'occupait aux affaires de ménage et de planification, il s'est passé un niveau haut d'activité.

J'ai voyagé pendant les deux derniers mois à la Nouvelle Ecosse, au Nouveau Brunswick et à l'Ile de Prince Edouard, et j'espère pouvoir visiter nos amis de l'Association des Camps de la Terre Neuve dès que possible en 1987. Le Nouveau Brunswick et la Nouvelle Ecosse, tous les deux, ont passé en revue et ont ajusté leurs plans d'action, qui fournira toute une gamme d'activités pour leurs membres dans les années qui viennent. On essaie toujours d'établir une association provincielle à l'Ile de Prince Edouard et je suis plein d'espoir qu'en 1987 cela sera accompli La Terre Neuve a continué à prospérer sous la direction de Frank O'Connor et elle préserve l'esprit de camping au province plus jeune de Canada.

En commençant 1987, je suis sûr que le rôle de l'ACC/CCA et de ses membres fédérés deviendra de plus en plus important comme le mouvement de camping continue à s'agrandir, tout en servant non seulement les jeunes, mais tous qui participent à une expérience de la récréation en plein air.

NEW BRUNSWICK
AT OUR CAMP

by Gillian Young

Gillian Young is on staff at Camp Glenburn in N.B. and provides an anecdotal look back on the summer of 1986.

Reprinted from Camping News

Two conscientious C.I.T.'s arrived at the Camp Director's Cabin at 12:45 a.m. to report what they believed was a forest fire. The Camp Director quickly followed the boys to the scene but as they neared the edge of the forest, it appeared to be only a flashlight. The C.I.T.'s reassured the Camp Director that it had been flickering — they had seen flames. There was no smoke and no scent of a forest fire. The three headed deeper into the woods to the source of the light. What a surprise! A counsellor in the campcraft area having a midnight snack of — believe it or not — lobster. The C.I.T.'s had indeed seen flames; those of a Coleman stove. The counsellor had a lovely set-up with a lantern shedding light on his stove, lobster and his table laid with everything on it, including the butter. It was quite a unique idea, but it didn't quite fit into the camp rules. The counsellor was sent to bed. The C.I.T.'s returned to their beds feeling quite embarrassed and the Camp Director returned to bed chuckling at the situation. It was a night to remember!

A few of the younger boys found a stray cat which had been around camp for about two weeks and had decided to have kittens on their counsellor's bunk. The nature director was immediately summoned to supervise the birth and answer the questioning minds of the young campers. It was a thrill for many and needless to say, all of the nature classes benefitted from the event.

A camper started to walk home. She intended to use her Tuck Money — the large sum of $4.00, to pay for the taxi. But it wasn't too far into her journey that she realized she wouldn't make it. Her suitcase was as big as she was and to her displeasure and our satisfaction, she made it about ten yards beyond her cabin door. By the way, she lasted the two weeks at camp and now wants to return next year!

Five campers walked up and down the hill at Camp Glenburn 57 times in a row. They got their names in the "GLENBURN BOOK OF RECORDS." For those of you who are familiar with the Camp Glenburn Hill, this was quite a feat, I'm sure you would agree.

We used more rainy day programs this summer than we have used in total in the last three years.

ALL . . . IN . . . ALL . . .
A GOOD SUMMER AT GLENBURN.

NEW BRUNSWICK

N.B.C.A. PRESENTS THE ANNUAL WINTER OUTDOOR SKILLS INSTITUTE

DATES: 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 26th
to
2:00 p.m. Sunday, March 1st, 1987

LOCATION: Fundy National Park, Alma, N.B.

COST: The registration fee entitles participants to all meals during the workshop, accommodation, souvenir shirt, workshop sessions and handout materials.

	Prior to Feb. 1	After Feb. 1
Members	$62.00	$72.00
Non-members	$72.00	$82.00

MAXIMUM REGISTRATION: 25 first year participants and 15 veterans.

PROGRAM: The program is designed to meet three basic objectives: (1) development of personal skills; (2) development of teaching progressions and leadership skills; and (3) development of a library of program ideas.

Specific sessions will be held on the following topics:

INTERPRETING NATURE WITH CHILDREN
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
CAMP SKILLS
MAP & COMPASS
SHELTER BUILDING
SHOWSHOEING
CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT
ORIENTEERING
WINTER GAMES AND SNOW PLAY
AND MUCH MORE . . .

An OVERNIGHT TREK is planned for second and third year participants.

RESOURCE PERSONS: Outdoor recreation and education practitioners from across the province will be on hand to lead the sessions.

REGISTRATION: For more information contact:
N.B.C.A., P.O. Box 263,
Moncton, N.B. E1C 8K9

QUEBEC REGIONAL NEWS

by Ken Willis
C.C.A./A.C.C. Vice-President
(Quebec Region)

The French Language Committee has made excellent progress on a report proposing a policy for bilingualism in the C.A.A./A.C.C. It will be proposed at an early Board of Management meeting and a policy for its implementation will be considered soon afterward.

This Committee has also been following up on the identification of French Language Camps outside Quebec, partly through its Ontario and New Brunswick members. A new directory of these camps will be published this year.

The A.C.Q. has, over the past years, received very significant funding from the Provincial Government. The degree of this funding has been reduced somewhat over the past couple of years and the A.C.Q. now expects there will be significant cut backs due to the financial condition of the Government. However, the A.C.Q. has been placing more and more emphasis on self-financing and has made good progress along this line. It is likely that, during the coming year, members will be expected to contribute much more of their time to fulfill the services of the organization or they will have to dig further into their pockets to cover its financial obligations. There has been some mention of looking to other Provincial Organizations for leads on the former of those two alternatives.

The organized camping movement in Quebec was born in 1938. Tony Shorgun, who has been involved in camping during many of the intervening years, is already at work laying plans for the 50th Anniversary of this birth which, obviously, will be held next year.

Camp membership in A.C.Q. has been holding well at about 110 with a few being dropped each year because they do not meet standards and a few new ones being added. The Board of Directors each year agonizes over a few camps which seem careless about the paperwork involved in meeting standards as well as a few others who want to be members but are unwilling or unable to improve facilities or personnel or management in such a way as to meet the standards by which the A.C.Q. protects the public and the other members who do meet the standards.

ONTARIO

We hope you had a safe and happy holiday season. May our dreams of sugar plum pastries and camps that are filled to capacity become a reality in the New Year.

Ontario's Camp Directors are anxiously waiting for our Annual Conference to take place early in the New Year. It is with equal anticipation that we look forward to the International Congress in March, so that we, from across Canada, can make our presence felt in Washington, D.C. Oh! what a time that will be.

Liability insurance continues to be an issue here in Ontario. There are still questions of adequate coverage and total coverage that lurk as threats that may affect some camps. Coverage without total coverage means that some programs may not be covered. Included in all of this is the rising cost of insurance as well.

The Ontario Camping Association has joined the Parks and Recreation Federation of Ontario which is a group that represents the common elements of ten recreational associations. One of the benefits of membership is that of being well represented when it comes to issues that may require lobbying the Government. The Federation has systems well in place that will enable us to be more effective in that area. As well, we have the support of the other members of the Federation. We look forward to our association with P.R.F.O. with the hope that we can give and take within the recreation community.

ALBERTA

Congratulations to the following people who have been selected to represent Alberta to attend the 2nd International Camping Congress in Washington, D.C. in March of 1987.

Shirley Cuthill	Anne McMillan	Barb Forster
Megan Jentz	Margaret Seel	Gary Luthy
Carson Herrick	Bob Sperling	Jan James
Sarah Drew	George Taven	Gary Goertzen
Rob Lindskog	Bob Williamson	Shirley McFall
Rod Irwin	Al Hart	Wayne Perkins
Jean Funk	Matthew Daw	Jo-anne Kobylka
Cathy Martin	David Larsen	Harry Swan
Mickey Johnston	Lorna Hughes	Mike Walters

Canadian Camping Association
National Office/Siège Sociale
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1
Phone: (416) 781-4717

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

QUE SIGNIFIE UN NOM?

The Art and Science of Camp names is a subject for detailed and prolonged study. The origins for some names are as simple as identifying the lake or mountain upon which the camp is located or the name of the founder or first director. Other names are complicated tongue twisting acronyms or they are native terms defying pronunciation by any but five year veterans of the camp itself. (Those campers and staff can even make it rhyme in the camp song).

As its contribution to the language of camping the CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE will send a crack team of investigative reporters into the archives of different camps across the country to deliver to its readership not only the correct pronunciation of the feature camp but the origin of its name as well. CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE invites suggestions and data for future issues.

CAMP ECTUS (ek'tas)

Camp Ectus is located on approximately 26 acres of land near Petit Rocher Nord (Bathurst) in New Brunswick. It is a residential camp for 100 coed campers between the ages of 8 and 12. It offers a full range of traditional camp activities. Jean-Eudes Doucet is the current Director.

The name, (originally ICTUS) reflected the religious base of the sponsoring agency as an acronym, combining the first letters of various words of Christian origin. The "I" was icon, "C" Christus, etc. The other words of the acronym are lost in camping history until someone contacts us.

The change to Ectus was prompted by a camp doctor who pointed out that "ictus" was more than an acronym. It is a medical term for a "sudden attack or fit" sometimes associated with heart attacks. Apparently, some former Directors argued, at the time, that this new definition made the name all the more appropriate, given the problems of directing a typical camp, but it was to no avail.

A new name was sought and found by adapting the prefix "ecto" from the Greek work "ektos" meaning "outside". It is in the out-of-doors that Camp Ectus campers meet each summer to grow strong and happy in camp life.

L'Art et la Science des noms de camps est un sujet qui merite une étude détaillée et prolongée. Quelques noms ont les origines aussi simple que l'identification d'un lac ou d'une montagne où se trouve le camp ou que le nom du fondateur ou du premier directeur. D'autres noms sont les acronymes très difficiles à prononcer, ou ils sont des termes indigènes que personne, sauf les vétérans de cinq ans du camp. (Ces campeurs et ces employés peuvent même le faire rimer dans la chanson du camp).

Comme contribution au langage de camping le "Canadian Camping Magazine" enverra une équine de journalistes investigateurs dans les archives de différents camps du pays pour présenter aux lecteurs la prononciation correct du camp et aussi l'origine de son nom. Canadian Camping Magazine invite les suggestion et les informations pour les livraisons à venir.

Camp Ectus se trouve sur à peu près 26 acres de terrain près de Petit Rocher Nord (Bathurst) en Nouveau Brunswick. C'est un camp résidentiel pour 100 campeurs mixtes âgés de 8 ans à 12 ans. Il offre toute une gamme d'activités traditionnelles. Jean-Eudes Doucet est le directeur du moment.

Le nom, (originellement ICTUS) a refleté la base religieuse de l'agence répondante comme acronyme, en combinant les premiers lettres de divers mots d'origine chrétien. "I" était icon, le "C" était christus et les autres mots de l'acronyme sont perdus dans l'histoire de camping jusqu'au moment où quelqu'un se mettra en contact avec nous.

Un docteur du Camp a incité le changement en remarquant que le mot "ictus" était plus qu'un acronyme. Il est un terme médical qui veut dire "une crise soudaine" et qu'on associe quelquefois avec les crises cardiaques. Apparemment, d'anciens directeurs ont constaté que cette nouvelle définition a fait meilleur choisi le nom, à cause des problèmes qu'on a en administrant un camp, mais sans résultat.

On a cherché un nouveau nom et l'a trouvé en ajustant le préfixe "ecto" du mot grec "ektos" qui veut dire "en dehors". C'est en dehors que les campeurs du "Camp Ectus" se retrouvent chaque été pour devenir fort et heureux grâce à la vie du camp.

Committee Notes/Les Notes Des Comités

Immigration Task Force

The introduction of the requirement of a Medical Examination for all foreign camp counsellors, caused an otherwise smoothly working protocol to lurch and knock this past year. A personal meeting in early May with the Minister of Health and Welfare, Jake Epp, persuaded him to amend the cumbersome medical requirement. The whole process caused confusion for some camps.

The Medical Examination is here to stay. A meeting in Ottawa in November has modified and simplified the process still further and it is now hoped that the new protocol can be made to work smoothly, both protecting the health of children while recognizing the desirability of Canadian camps engaging some foreign camp counsellors.

Our aim must continue to be to hire Canadians first. Our practices are monitored by computers at the point of entry into Canada. We have enjoyed wonderful co-operation from Manpower, Immigration Canada over the years, through the good offices of Rick Morrison.

Each camp can play a role in fostering this strong liaison by following carefully all of the steps in the protocol. Hiring foreign camp counsellors is a privilege granted, not a right of Canadian camps. The practices of each camp affects all camps.

Barry Lowes,
Chairman

Le Détachement Spécial affecté à l'immigration

L'introduction de l'exigence de l'examen médical pour tour les conseillers étrangers, a fait vaciller à un protocole qui marchait sans difficullés cette année. Une entrevue en mai avec le ministre de la Santé Publique, Jake Epp, lui a persuadé d'amender la réquisé medicale encombrante. Le processus a causé de la confusion pour quelques camps.

L'examen médical reste. Une entrevue à Ottawa en novembre a modifié et a simplifié le processus de plus et on peut espérer que le nouveau protocole peut marcher sans difficultés en protegeant le santé des enfants et au même temps en reconnaissant les avantages pour les camps Canadiens d'employer des conseillers étrangers.

Notre but doit continuer à être d'engager premièrement les Canadiens. Les ordinateurs contrôlent, du moment de l'entrée dans Canada, nos pratiques. Nous avons joui de la coopération du Manpower, l'immigration du Canada, par l'entremise de Rick Morrison.

Chaque camp peut jouer un rôle à encourger le liaison vif en suivant soigneusement le protocol. C'est plutôt un privilège qu'un droit de pouvoir engager les conseillers étrangers. Les pratiques de chaque camp touchent tous les autres.

The Committee of French Language Camps

We are working feverishly toward the publication of the second edition of Incef 87 which you hear about regularly.

At the January meeting, we will present a first copy of the language policies of the CCA/ACC. Therefore, we will soon be able to present a copy accepted by the members of the President's Council.

At the beginning of '87, we will send a questionnaire to French Language Camps which have been identified in order to discover their specific needs. We will therefore have the necessary tools to work out a realistic plan of action.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Gerard Bachand

Commission Des Camps D'expression Française

Nous travaillons fébrilement pour la publication de la deuxième édition de l'Incef 87 dont vous entendez parler régulièrement.

Nous présenterons, à la réunion de janvier, une première version des politiques linguistiques de l'ACC/CCA. Nous pourrons alors bientôt vous présenter une version acceptée par les membres du Conseil du Président.

Au début de l'année 87, nous enverrons un questionnaire aux Camps francophones identifiés jusqu'à présent afin de connaitre leurs besoins spécifiques. Nous aurons alors les outils nécessaires pour élaborer un programme d'action réaliste.

Meilleurs voeux pour la nouvelle année.

Gérard Bachand
Commission des camps
d'expression française

Archives

During the past year this committee has appealed to the Provincial Associations to send to Trent University copies of their newsletters, minutes, notices, etc., in order that they would constitute a permanent record of camping in Canada during 1986.

The Archivist, Mrs. Bernadine Dodge, has received several of the brown envelopes commonly known as the "Brown Bag" and is most grateful for the contributions that have come in.

It has always been difficult to make people aware that the events of today will form an interesting piece of history in two or three decades.

Some Provincial Associations have their own archives where they collect printed material about their member camps and it is hoped that before long all Provincial Associations will establish their own archives committees.

This committee urges each of our readers to preserve materials that could be of interest in the future.

Bruno Morawetz, PHD
Chairman

Les archives

Pendant l'année passée ce comité a lancé un appel aux associations provincielles pour envoyer des copies de leurs bulletins, de leurs comptes rendus, de leurs annonces, etc. à Trent University pour qu'ils constituent un rapport permanent du camping au Canada pendant l'année 1986.

L'archiviste, Mme Bernadine Dodge, a reçu plusieurs des enveloppes brunes (appelées "les sacs bruns") et elle est très reconnaissante de ces contributions.

Il est toujours difficile de convaincre tout le monde que les événements d'aujourd'hui seront l'histoire intéressante après deux ou trois décennies.

Quelques associations provinciel-les ont leurs propres archives où on rassemble les documentations de ses camps, et on espère que bientôt chaque association provincielles établira un comité d'archives.

Ce comité demande à chaque lecteur de conserver les documentations qui peuvent être intéressantes à l'avenir.

A TRIBUTE TO THE OLDEST CAMP IN CANADA! BIG COVE YMCA CAMP NOVA SCOTIA

by Kelley Byrne
President, Camping Association of Nova Scotia
& Director, Big Cove YMCA Camp

Un tribut au camp le plus veux de Canada

Big Cove Camp en Nouvelle Ecosse était établi en 1891 par le Y.M.C.A. de Pictou County. 1905, le Y.M.C.A. d'Halifax en a pris possession. Le programme de Big Cove donne de l'importance aux sports, aux activités nautiques, à l'étude de la nature, aux excursions de camping et à la connaissance des bois, et aussi aux programmes spéciaux comme le "Indian Ceremonial Night". Bien des chefs importants des Maritimes faisaient partie auparavant du Big Cove Y.M.C.A. Camp pour les garçons et les jeunes filles.

As far back as the late 1800's, people in the Maritimes saw the value in providing opportunities for young people to live together and experience the outdoors. The Maritime YMCA, based in Truro, held the first Maritime Boys' Camp in 1891. This Camp quickly became an annual event, and the area of Big Cove in Pictou County became the gathering grounds for large numbers of boys and men. For shelter up on the grassy hills, floorless bell tents were used, all pitched together overlooking Merigomish Harbour. Though equipment was quite limited, an active YMCA program undoubtedly existed. Big Cove is very sheltered and provides a terrific swimming and canoeing area, while the countryside provides endless opportunities for exploration.

About 1905, the site officially became known as Big Cove YMCA Camp and the property came under the jurisdiction of the Halifax YMCA. Groups of young men continued to camp at Big Cove each summer from all around the Province, and, in 1939, something very special happened — the girls got into the act at good ol' Big Cove.

With the coming of the ladies, a dining hall was erected at this time. This was the first building of many to be built in the years to come. The dining hall, plus the rest, are still standing and used today. Big Cove generally involved about 100 boys per session and particular emphasis was placed on providing spaces for underprivileged youths. Much of the traditional programming included sports, crafts, hikes, swimming, and nature study. Also, much of the financial and leadership support came from the Halifax Y's Men's Club and New Glasgow Gyro Club.

By the late 1940's, the Camp was well established as a Boys Camp. Traditional pageants, which still carry on today, such as "Indian Ceremonial Night", were eagerly anticipated and outtripping became a very significant highlight of the Camp program using sailboats, canoes and rowboats. Our Voyageur program dates back to this time, challenging older youth to develop expert outtripping, canoeing, axemanship and woodcraft skills. An open air Chapel became the setting for Sunday Services in keeping with the spiritual emphasis of the YMCA.

In 1961, Big Cove, being primarily and traditionally a Boys Camp, was faced with the dilemma of whether it ought to open its gates for a 10-day Girls Camp. Well, it did, and the experience was a huge success; so much so that regular Girls sessions were offered in all the years to come.

In the early seventies, it became apparent that well over 60 years of use by thousands of enthusiastic campers was beginning to show on the Camp facilities and some fairly major repairs were needed. So it was that, in 1976, regrettably the Camp was closed. Since that time, a renewal program has begun, and steadily Big Cove Camp is looking more and more like its old self. In 1980, Camp was reopened and growth has been steady ever since.

Over the years, Big Cove has developed many leaders whose dedication and energetic support played a vital role in the Camp's success. Many of the important leaders in the Maritimes today were once part of Big Cove's family and can look back and say "Hey, I went there — what a time we had!"

I am extremely proud to be the current Director of Big Cove Camp, which has had many fine leaders at the helm. These last two years have given me a very special opportunity to grow, learn, and love the people around me. I think we all know how unique and wonderful campers and staff can be, and Camp itself is just the best place to be to get the special hugs you've been waiting for all year long. Last summer I think I was nearly hugged to death and WOW! What a feeling! There's a natural beauty in the people at Big Cove and a great beauty of the hills and forests and the cove. All these things make it the best place around to be and the best place to be around.

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Le Profil de Personnalité

MARY S. EDGAR
1889 - 1973

Mary S. Edgar was the Director of Glen Bernard Camp from 1922 - 1955, at which time she turned over the Camp to her nephew and niece-in-law, John and Barbara Gilchrist.

She was President of the Ontario Camping Association from 1939 - 1942. She was the first editor of CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE for many years beginning in 1949, and she was the Honourary President of the Canadian Camping Association from 1960 - 1973.

Miss Edgar was the author of many camp-related books, "Wood-fire and Candle-light", "Under Open Skies" and "Once there was a Camper". CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE conducted this interview with Barbara Gilchrist, a Past-President of O.C.A. and John Gilchrist, Mary S. Edgar's nephew, who is a Past Vice-President and Treasurer of O.C.A.

MARY S. EDGAR
1889 - 1973

Mary S. Edgar était directrice du Camp Glen Bernard pendant les années 1922 à 1955, quand elle a livré le Camp à son neveu et sa femme, John et Barbara Gilchrist.

Elle était présidente de l'association des Camps de l'Ontario de 1939 à 1942. Elle était la première directrice de "Canadian Camping Magazine" pendant plusieurs années commençant en 1949, et elle etait la présidente honorifique de l'association des Camps du Canada de 1960 à 1973.

Mlle Edgar était auteur de plusieurs livres au sujet de camping, "Wood-fire and Candle-light", "Under Open Skies" et "Once there was a Camper". "Canadian Camping Magazine" a conduit cette entrevue avec Barbara Gilchrist, une ancienne présidente de l'A.C.O. et avec John Gilchrist, le neveu de Mary S. Edgar, qui est l'ancien vice-président et le trésorier de l'A.C.O.

INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA & JOHN GILCHRIST

CANADIAN CAMPING: John & Barb, thanks for taking time to talk about a truly great lady. Throughout her career, Mary S. Edgar was, unquestionably, the First Lady of Canadian Camping. She started the first Canadian Private Girls' Camp, was the first Editor of Canadian Camping Magazine, the Honourary President of C.C.A. and on and on. What were the early indications that she would become our First Lady, John?

JOHN GILCHRIST: Well, I guess it was her background in the YWCA when she was introduced to camping at YWCA Camp Oolahwan in Quebec. That was her first taste of Camping.

CC: How did she get to Oolahwan from Sundridge, Ontario? What was the connection? It was before you were born, wasn't it?

JOHN: Yes, I am not sure . . . she got involved with the YWCA and I presume it was a natural thing to go into camping . . . coming from the north country.

BARBARA GILCHRIST: If I may interrupt, I think she took a course in the Y in New York. She knew she wanted to be in recreation work . . . girls' work and . . .

CC: So she didn't go to Oolahwan as a camper then . . .

BARB: No, Oh no, she went to . . . she took training for girls' work in the Y in New York.

CC: OK, let's go back a step, then, to the really early beginnings before she was grown up . . . before the course in New York . . . before she went to Oolahwan. Tell us about Sundridge and the really early times.

JOHN: Well, her parents were, I guess you would say today, very progressive for the small town of Sundridge. Her father was a general merchant in town and supplied the lumber mills and he ran for Member of Parliament, wasn't elected the first time but was eventually the Member for Parry Sound District . . .

CC: In the Provincial Government . . .

JOHN: Yes, in the Provincial Government . . . MPP . . . he was a great help to Mary S. when she came back from New York. She was quite determined that she wanted to start her own Camp. It wasn't very difficult to pick a site because they used to picnic in the area that is now Glen Bernard Camp. There is a little Glen just off the beach and, as children, the Edgar girls played there. Her father helped her by buying a lot of lumber to build the early cabins. It was second rate lumber, I guess you would call it, with lots of knot-holes for the mosquitoes, but she was able to erect buildings in 1922 and start off that very first year with not just tents but with cabins and a Main Lodge.

CC: Were all the Edgar children daughters? What number was Mary?

JOHN: Mary was the youngest, wasn't she?

BARB: No, I think Betty was the youngest . . . I think Mary was second . . . your mother Margaret was first, then Mary, then Annie — who became a missionary in India and then Betty. Two of the Edgar daughters got married and raised families. Two had careers . . . Mary being the one whose career was in camping.

CC: On the strength of her experiences at Oolahwan, she knew camping was what she wanted to do with her life. What was the property like on the other side of Lake Bernard from Sundridge?

JOHN: It had been an old farm, a deserted farm and they were able to purchase the farm . . . I am not sure how many acres they started with but, over the years, she eventually acquired 500 acres as the Camp.

CC: So, in 1922, she started the first Canadian Private Girls' Camp, but let's not get into Glen Bernard for a minute until we establish some other things that she was doing concurrently. For instance, she was involved with the CGIT — the Canadian-Girls-in-Training. And she provided some great leadership to the Girl Guides, too. Those things must have happened in the 20's, didn't they?

JOHN: I am sorry I can't answer that . . . whether she did that while she was operating the Camp during the winter time or not, I am not sure.

BARB: Well, I think she was unique in following her dream of young ladies leaving their families and going into resident camping. Then a parallel philosophy was CGIT and a parallel philosophy was Girl Guides so that it was rather inevitable that Mary and CGIT leaders and Mary and Girl Guide leaders would have something in common and would turn to each other in camping.

CC: Did she have any academic background . . . what did she do when she went to New York? What kind of training was that?

BARB: Well, it was certainly not a University degree level but she had elementary education behind her to be able to enter into the New York Y program.

CC: She had a connection with Havergal College too, didn't she? Was she a student there?

BARB: She was a student.

JOHN: The four Edgar girls all graduated from Havergal.

CC: Now that was quite something.

JOHN: Quite something when you think of a small town of 600, that the four of them went from Sundridge to Toronto and to Havergal.

CC: Was Havergal ever a source of Glen Bernard campers later on?

BARB: Oh indeed it was. I think people understood there was a connection between Havergal and Glen Bernard, which was only a friendly and not necessarily a business arrangement.

JOHN: In latter years, she spoke about Havergal reunions and so on.

CC: In 1922 then, she hung up her shingle and she knew that a Girls' Camp in Northern Ontario was to be her life's work. Sundridge is how far from Toronto?

JOHN: 175 miles.

CC: And in those days, in 1922, that's a long way for children to . . .

JOHN: To drive. It was nearly a day-and-a-half trip.

CC: There wasn't a lot of girls' camping going on to that point.

JOHN: No not private camping.

CC: Parents entrusted their children to drive all that distance so their girls . . .

BARB: Or put them on a train, because there was a Sundridge station and I think that a number of the campers arrived by train.

JOHN: Most of them arrived by train.

CC: Were there any stories told to you about that first year? Did she have any struggles to get it going?

JOHN: I think her enrollment the first year was only about 30 campers.

BARB: It was certainly under 40 . . . but over 30 . . .

JOHN: Some of those were . . . or one of those was my sister . . . I don't imagine that she was a big paying proposition for her . . . her niece . . .

CC: This is your sister Betty?

JOHN: Betty Seaborn, yes . . .

BARB: Betty Gilchrist, yes . . .

JOHN: And Dr. Mary Northway was one of her campers. I am not sure of the connection there but I know that "Granny", as we call her, could certainly tell you about her interviews with Mary S. about going to Camp.

CC: Whom do you call "Granny"?

JOHN: Mary Northway. Aunt Mary's first year must have been successful because she more than doubled her enrollment in the second year and, from then on, it just flourished.

BARB: I think that very first summer . . . it was so new and awesome to these youngsters to be in a camp setting, away from their parents and residing in these little cabins and lodges and learning wonders about outdoors. They were blazing a trail . . . a lot of their programs were just simply paving paths through the woods that still exist to this day.

The path from the Dining Room to their cabin, the path from the Dining Room to the Waterfront. That was pretty well their program, simply exploring and experimenting and blazing a trail.

CC: Mary S. Edgar was a real pioneer . . . as were the campers . . . but the parents were pioneering too, weren't they?

BARB: In allowing their daughters to be away up north . . .

JOHN: It took a lot of salesmanship in Toronto, or wherever, to convince parents to allow their daughters to . . . and Mary did that.

CC: Were there any techniques? Do you know anything she did? What was her secret?

JOHN: My guess would be just her enthusiasm and her personality would do it.

CC: When one thinks about Mary S. Edgar and Glen Bernard, "fireplaces" come to mind. Were there fireplaces all over Camp? Did campers have a lot of lunch-outs, where they would cook their own meals on fireplaces?

BARB: Well that came later, a little later . . .

JOHN: She did love fireplaces. There were 16 cabins in camp with fireplaces in them, but they were more for sitting around and telling stories and toasting marshmallows. As far as eating goes, there was a campsite which had many fireplaces and, when the weather was nice, they did eat out . . . the food was prepared in the kitchen . . . there was a counter outside . . . the food was served from there. We carried that on with our new Dining Room. We had windows that opened and the food . . . there was a counter that was outside . . . the food was served from there. So in the hot weather, we had every meal out, except for breakfast. But that wasn't particularly around fireplaces.

CC: The campers didn't do cooking every day . . .

JOHN: No, there was the group that went to the campsite every day, but a small group . . .

CC: And did Mary S. Edgar build the fireplaces herself?

JOHN: No, she had a very talented man in Sundridge, an old man called Angus Buchanan who was a stone mason. He built these fireplaces that are still standing today . . . many of them.

BARB: Leaping ahead to our Directorship, after Mary had retired to a restful cottage at the foot of the lake, she encouraged us to build a new Dining Room. My wish was to have a fireplace in the Dining Room. Some said

it was not a wise addition because it would become a place to throw paper refuse. Mary Edgar, bless her heart, agreed with me that a fireplace in the Dining Room would be a wonderful addition and there would be some of us around to see that a fire was built and lit and used as a fireplace should be. So, she dedicated or provided the fireplace for the 1966 new Dining Room and she was present at the dedication, when that fire was laid and lit for the first time.

JOHN: Not only a fireplace but two fireplaces, back to back, one for the junior section and one for the intermediate and senior sections.

BARB: Over the larger side of the Dining Room that accommodates older campers is a bronze plaque with a motto that Mary Edgar I think created and it has survived the years "The best of each for the good of all". Our successor, Jocelyn Palm, happily keeps that bronzed plaque prominently displayed.

JOHN: We had a plaque put on the fireplace to signify that it was donated to Glen Bernard Camp by Mary S. Edgar in 1966.

CC: Would you say that the fireplaces and the atmosphere they created would be one of the traditions of Glen Bernard that people would remember?

BARB: Most definitely, yes indeed, because it lent so much atmosphere to so many things that happened. Fire burning in the fireplace in the Main Lodge . . . fires in the Junior Section in an old building called the Hutch where Juniors listened to many a bedtime story before they went off to bed . . . fireplaces in the Section lounges where every Section Staff were able to enjoy the benefits of an open fire . . . and always endless supplies of fireplace wood, too.

"Kneel always when you light a fire . . . "

CC: What other kinds of things would you call "traditional" that were really Glen Bernard and a reflection of Mary S. Edgar and her philosophy?

JOHN: I will start that because the old campers we talk to always say "Do you still have Council Ring?" Having said that I did not take part in the Council Ring but Barbara carried that tradition on so she should talk about it . . .

BARB: Alright. As a camper, probably the ceremony that meant most to me, unknowing of the future and that I would ever be Director of the Camp, which remained with the best possible memories, was a Council Ring. So it was very important to me as the new Director of Glen Bernard to continue with the Council Ring Ceremony. Mary Edgar, who directed it as Ogimaqua (Friend of Children) — Ojibwa — bestowed upon me, as Chief of the Council Ring Fire, the Ojibwa name, Yehjenhiosta (she who keeps the fires burning brightly) . . . Fire was so important and the lovely poem by John Oxenham . . . I recited so many times with such feeling that I can't help but remember it to this day even ten years after retiring from Glen Bernard, "Kneel always when you light a fire, kneel reverently and grateful be, for God's unfailing charity. And, on the ascending flame, inspire, a little prayer that shall upbear the incense of your thankfulness, for this sweet grace of heat and light. For here, behold, a sacrifice for your delight. Kneel always when you light a fire, kneel reverently and grateful be, for God's unfailing charity." Anyway I just love that.

CC: That is beautiful. Did you always light the fire at Council Ring . . . and before you . . . did Mary S. Edgar do it?

BARB: Actually, the handing over of the Directorship of Glen Bernard was done at the last Council Ring of the summer of 1955. As a complete surprise to me, Mary Edgar had been corresponding with Dawendini, the daughter of the Chief of the Mohawks in Brantford, and received the recommendation that Yehjenhiosta meant "she who takes over someone else's job or she who keeps the fire burning brightly". So, to my surprise at the conclusion of the last Council Ring of Mary's Directorship, she bestowed upon me her Indian costume, her beaded headband, her feather and the whole Directorship of Glen Bernard. I kept my Indian name as Chief of Council Ring from then on. Twice each Saturday night from our first year 1956 through to our last year, I was Yehjenhiosta directing the Council Ring so that I was able to recite "Kneel Always When You Light a Fire" twice each Saturday night for 8 weeks of each summer.

CC: That is how often Council Ring took place?

JOHN: Once in the Junior Council Ring which was 7 o'clock and then again in the Senior Council Ring . . . two different sites . . . at 8 o'clock.

CC: Is that Council Ring located in the hollowed-out area near the waterfront?

BARB: The natural glen from whence Glen Bernard gets its name. Yes, that is where the older campers had their Council Ring and so much of Glen Bernard's whole program philosophy was built around the Council Ring with the campers being elected as Chiefs. This was a very great privilege for a Senior camper to be eligible to be a Chief and be nominated by her fellow campers. They were given reference books to refer to, to learn of the various tribes in North America. Each Chief would select a name for her tribe, select a colour scheme, tribal song and yell, and this was a very great part of the first day or two of Camp. Then there was an initiation Council Ring followed by weekly Council Rings. The whole Camp program was built around tribal events, so that one was able to announce at the end of the summer a particular tribe superior to another, although, it usually levelled itself out.

CC: How do you suppose that got started? Did Mary S. Edgar do some reading or did . . .

BARB: John can tell you more about that because he remembers hearing about the visit of Pauline Johnson . . .

JOHN: Well, Pauline Johnson came to Sundridge to do a reading and stayed at Mary's parents' home which was above and beside the general store in Sundridge.

CC: That was after Mary had the Camp?

JOHN: No, it was when she was just a little girl and this influenced her greatly. She was fascinated by Pauline Johnson and followed her career very closely after that. I think that was the start of it.

BARB: Pauline Johnson's book "The Flint and Feather" is always in Glen Bernard libraries, the lovely poem, "The Song My Paddle Sings" and other beautiful poems. Also, Pauline Johnson's type of writing inspired Mary to write legends, Indian legends of her own, built around Lake Bernard and the tribes of Glen Bernard which, in fact, were make-believe but she made them sound the real thing in her story.

CC: That takes us to another aspect of her many talents . . . writing. There must have been some traditional things that happened at Glen Bernard that grew out of her writing of poems and her storytelling and so on.

JOHN: Well she certainly . . . the Tadger Tales, which she did not write, she certainly embellished a great deal and they became quite a part of Glen Bernard's program not only in reading them but in acting them out at night and making a play out of them. She received permission to use the Tadger Tales in her own way.

BARB: I think they were written originally by Jane Ward and Mary bought the rights to embellish them or do with them as she wished. So always a part of Glen Bernard summers was a Tadger Night which in fact almost took on the aura of Hallowe'en . . .

JOHN: She had written before this and, when she was in the Y in New York, she had written plays. I don't know where the writing talent came from whether Havergal could tell you or not, I don't know . . .

CC: Former Glen Bernard campers have talked about their visits to the Wigwam and asking Mary for poems that she had written . . . would she please recite one of her poems? Where was the Wigwam and what was that all about?

JOHN: The Wigwam was her cabin. It was right down by the waterfront and it was between the Junior Camp, "Bunny Camp" it was called in those days, and the other Camp.

BARB: Breakfast parties, tea parties . . .

JOHN: It had a corner fireplace . . . and there was a bench beside it where Mary would sit and tell stories and all types of legends, Indian legends. How many of them were her own fertile imagination or she had read about was hard to say.

CC: What a marvellous way to have an influence on the growth and experience of campers! Just terrific! John, your mother was Mary S. Edgar's older sister. When did you come into the picture . . . and Barb, you too . . . when did the two of you come into the Glen Bernard picture?

JOHN: Well, because my mother came from Sundridge, we have always summered at Sundridge. I was invited to stay with Aunt Mary as a nine year old or eight year old and I would grab a tape for the maintenance man and help him or carry the hammer, or whatever, so I have fond memories of when they built the New Lodge in 1932. I would be 10 or so. Hugo Grimm was the man's name and I spent a good deal of time either at the cottage with my parents or being a nuisance around Glen Bernard. When I got a little too old for that, I came back into the picture as the guide of canoe-trips. I had been to Camp Layolomi and Camp Temagami and I had done tripping with a group from Wychwood Park with a Captain Matthews; we had canoe-tripped extensively for a few years so I thought I knew it all and went to Glen Bernard as a guide. I had three wonderful summers guiding canoe-trips and discovered that girls can have a lot more fun on canoe-trips than boys and they don't have to go 20 miles every day and so on but . . .

CC: When was that?

JOHN: 1939 & 40 . . .

CC: Barb, were you already at Glen Bernard then?

BARB: I was at Glen Bernard and had been since I was twelve years old. I had progressed through wonderful summers, always in August. I was an August camper.

JOHN: In those days, most of the campers came for two months.

BARB: I was fortunate to have a dear aunt with a cottage on Georgian Bay where I spent my Julys, but I enjoyed my August part of my summer at Glen Bernard. When I reached the age of senior camper, I think I was 17 years old, I arrived as an August camper to learn that a day or two later I was selected to join 5 July campers on a very important canoe trip that was to go from Glen Bernard to Algonquin Park down to the Taylor Statten Camp area. Our guide would be John Gilchrist, the Director's nephew. I was delighted, having always loved canoe-tripping, to be selected to join this trip. And that's where I met John Gilchrist.

JOHN: Helen Stewart was one of those campers, too.

BARB: It was a very memorable trip . . . we had an excellent counsellor whose personality was such that, in rain or shine, we seemed to have fun and enjoy ourselves on that momentous, one of a kind, first ever, Glen Bernard trip that was gone for a whole ten days, even over a Sunday, and to compensate for our missing our Sunday Service in Glen Bernard Camp, Mary Edgar provided for our counsellor, Ello Gibson, a Church Service that we were to observe at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning wherever we were. As it so happened on that particular Sunday, we stopped on a portage and unfortunately it was pouring rain. As our counsellor, Ello, distributed the various poems and prayers that were to make up the Service, the first poem to be read began with "We are content . . . " which we certainly were not. We were wet and we were cold but we had enough respect for Mary Edgar and her wishes that we followed the Sunday Service for 11 o'clock . . . the first time ever that a group of Glen Bernard campers were not properly in Camp, but I must say a few giggles went around the circle before we became serious again and continued with the Service.

JOHN: The canoe-trip ended with a delightful lunch at Camp Wapomeo with Adele Ebbs and her mother, Mrs. Taylor Statten, and then we went on to Smoke Lake and spent the final night with Mary Northway's parents at Nominigan.

CC: And what year was that?

JOHN: 1939 . . .

CC: 1939 and, on that trip Barb, you made up your mind that you were going to marry John and take over the Camp . . . and live happily ever . . .

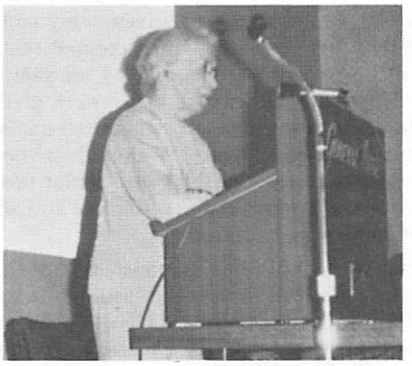
BARB: No, you are going too quickly, you're going too fast. But I did discover that where else can you learn so thoroughly and deeply about another person than on a canoe-trip? I liked John Gilchrist's sense of humour and I liked his love of the outdoors and his ability to take care of a group of campers.

JOHN: Barb was on staff at Glen Bernard and, even after we were married when I was in the army, she went back to Glen Bernard and headed the Intermediate Section.

BARB: That was the summer of 1944, I think, when you were overseas.

CC: When we think about Mary S. Edgar, the word that comes readily to mind is "creative"; she was so creative. Do you have any insight into how those qualities of creativity were developed?

JOHN: She was eternally young, she never was old. As you know, maybe we will talk about it later, she spoke at a C.C.A. Conference at Geneva Park at age 83. She felt strongly that children should be children and believe in fairies and make-believe . . . she was always dreaming up special programs where there was a "Hunt-Your-Breakfast" or a "Tadger Night" or a "Farmer Brown's Picnic".



Keynote Address at Geneva Park, 1973.

BARB: Those were magic, magic times and never ever did a special night depart from Glen Bernard shores, be it hiking or horseback riding or canoeing or boating or whatever, that we didn't return to a perfect closing of her lovely sleepy-time poetry to a firelight or lantern light or candle light, with hot chocolate, all romantic and memorable and . . .

JOHN: In latter years, this was reflected in her painting. She never had much time to paint while she was directing Glen Bernard, although she did have her painting teacher up at Camp, Mrs. Tonell. But, in her early paintings, every tree was perfect . . . there were no misformed trees . . . the sky was always blue. Later on, her paintings became a little more realistic. Some trees did have broken branches . . . there were clouds in the sky . . . but she saw beauty in everything.

CC: Thankfully, she documented some of these things and she was published in a whole lot of ways.

BARB: All the wonderful inspirational talks she gave in chapel touched, so deeply, everyone who experienced them . . . and they meant so much. On Visitors' Day, Parents wouldn't dream of missing a Sunday Service to hear Mary Edgar's message. I know I personally always gained so much from her messages that dealt with nature, with friendship, with sharing, with contributing. So I am sure people must have said to her, "Mary, that message meant so much to me, you should write it down." I think this inspired her to begin writing, although I am not sure what prompted her to write "Wood-Fire and Candlelight", which was mostly for . . . about fairies and elves and imagination and . . .

CC: It is a book of Poems . . . not Chapel talks . . .

BARB: Really for younger children. But she wrote "Under Open Skies" because she was aware that we would be eventually taking over Glen Bernard and she explained to us that she was really writing this down to help us with our Chapel Services. Mabel Jamieson was with her at Camp, that summer, and Mary persuaded Mabel to be her companion through her writing of "Under Open Skies" . . . to be her critic and correct her grammar . . . make suggestions on its format and . . . throughout her writing of the book she said, "You will find this useful in continuing my thoughts and my philosophies to future campers."

CC: So "Under Open Skies" was really a compilation of Chapel talks that Mary S. Edgar had given to campers in the outdoor chapel at Glen Bernard?

BARB: The experience from her life that she felt had a message or a lesson . . . that would be useful for campers.

CC: The whimsical book of poems entitled "Once There Was a Camper" . . .

BARB: Silly things about children who, when asked to soap the pot, soaped it on the inside which of course made the contents unusable . . .

CC: Some campers still do that today . . .

BARB: And other such things as the gum-chewing camper, the dieting camper. One of my favourites was that questioning camper who wondered why the water was wet and why the sun rose in the morning and why, why, why . . . until her poem ended with ". . . and she was changed to a spooky question mark" . . .

CC: The one I recall was the camper who caught a fish that was 12 inches long and he couldn't figure out how to fry it because the frying pay was only 9 inches wide . . . so he threw the fish back into the lake . . .

BARB: Exactly, that was the kind of concept she . . . but, for all her child-like imagination and her delightful view of life and so on, she was really a very astute businesswoman. Very astute and, being a maiden lady and perhaps dependent on wiser business heads, she did give credit to and found good advice from her brothers-in-law. Her sister, Betty, married Herbert MacTavish and her sister, Margaret, my mother-in-law, married George Gilchrist. George and Herbert were tremendous assets to her in her business.

CC: Her creativity and her writing talents must have contributed to her decision to start CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE. She was the first editor of CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE . . .

BARB: That kind of role would be sheer pleasure to her because I think she really enjoyed her writing, while some people perhaps knit or cook or stitch or paint whatever . . . oh she did paint too, but I think she felt therapy and great pleasure in writing. It wasn't a chore at all to her. It just came to her, naturally.

CC: Her contributions to the Camping Associations were many and varied . . . the Canadian Camping Association, the Ontario Camping Association . . .

JOHN: Yes, she was in with the founding fathers, as we say . . . I should mention the six of them. There was Taylor Statten, Ferna Halliday, A. L. Cochrane, Mary Hamilton, Ernie Chapman . . .

CC: And Mary S. Edgar . . .

JOHN: And Mary S. Edgar. They got together and decided they wanted to form a Camping Association as a vehicle

where they could exchange ideas and learn things from one another . . . and it grew from there.

CC: That was the Ontario Camping Association. Taylor Statten was the first President, in 1933. And the second President was . . .

JOHN: Mary S. Edgar, which was many years later . . .

CC: Yes I think she was O.C.A. President in 1939. Barb, that was the year you decided to marry John . . .

JOHN: No . . . That was when we met . . .

BARB: No I hadn't really decided then, no . . .

CC: Miss Edgar was President of the Ontario Camping Association, she was the Honourary President of the Canadian Camping Association for a long while, as well as Editor of the CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE. We had talked a little earlier, John, about the Canadian Camping Association Conference at Geneva Park in 1973. That was really significant because, as you say, she was 83 years old then and gave a stirring keynote address . . .

JOHN: She had written three poems that were as lively and as up-to-date as anything you could ever see . . . everyone was really impressed with her that night . . .

BARB: As far as speaking went, we were very dependent upon her and feeling very inadequate in filling her shoes in the Chapel-Message Department. She was so generous and so gracious about returning to Glen Bernard once each camp period, to deliver a "Mary S. Message" in the Chapel Service . . . once in July and once in August. I think parents timed their visits to their children to be able to hear Mary Edgar again give her messages . . .

JOHN: She would come over and play games with the Juniors and tell them stories on a rainy day and this was a good many years after she had given up the Camp . . . but she never really gave it up.

BARB: She always encouraged everything John and I wanted to do at Glen Bernard.

CC: In Mary Edgar's life, who played a significant role . . . people she relied on, people who relied on her, people she guided, people who guided her. We have talked about her diligent parents . . . and about Pauline Johnson a little bit . . . and Mary Northway a little bit. There must be others . . .

JOHN: If you start talking staff, there are so many people like Mary Northway, Flora Morrison, Enid Walker. She had a knack of attracting leaders who were people-oriented and they became very faithful to Mary S. which is one of the reasons any Camp is good. She was able to draw that type of person and she always found the best in everybody. If a person couldn't fulfil the job that Mary had hired them for, she would find some other job . . . she was a most resourceful person. During the war, she couldn't get horses shipped up to Camp, so she went out and found horses around Sundridge. I hate to think what they looked like but we had riding that year. She was able to overcome all the difficulties that were thrown in her way. I know she influenced many Glen Bernard campers who went on to become Camp Directors . . . Helen Stewart at Camp Wahcahmie, Jane Coventry at Camp Waseosa, Joyce Bertram at Camp Ouareau, June Labbett at Camp Oconto, Mary Liddell at Miakonda . . . she obviously influenced some of these people and she had profound impact on Barb and me and our Camp philosophy. Even into the current era . . .

CC: And the current Director of Glen Bernard . . . Jocelyn Palm.

JOHN: She and Jocelyn . . . Jocelyn came recommended from Dais Gass' Memphremagog. Mary S. was a good friend of Dais and she and Joc became close, close friends right away . . .

BARB: So we know, in our heart of hearts, Mary S. is delighted that Jocelyn is the owner and Director of Glen Bernard; she couldn't be happier I am sure.

CC: Others?

BARB: Others . . . when you ask who might have influenced her, I always think she was almost born doing the influencing somehow . . .

JOHN: I know that when we took over Glen Bernard in 1956, it was the senior staff that stayed on that had worked for her that were the Godsend to us to get us launched in our first few years.

CC: The same fascinating trend occurred when you turned over Glen Bernard to Jocelyn Palm . . .

JOHN: Fortunately, Jocelyn retained most of the very loyal staff and still has some of them 10 years later, which is amazing . . .

BARB: I think all due credit goes to Jocelyn; she was very conscientious about keeping the continuity. In other words, our senior campers who anticipated being invited to train as counsellors were given every consideration by Jocelyn that they would be accepted to train if this is what they wanted to do and, by the same token, those who had trained our last year were given every consideration to be hired on as counsellors. Any who had, through our latter years, worked their way up to senior positions, Joc placed them into senior positions so that no one was bypassed or overlooked and all were able to join in the continuity.

CC: What was Mary Edgar's leadership style? Was she up-front twirling the baton and leading the way or was she quietly in the background? How did she develop the leadership role in others that were growing up through Camp? What kind of a leader was she?

JOHN: I think she was certainly not up-front pushing . . . she led by her example . . . her quiet leadership style was respected by those whom she led and they wanted to please her . . .

BARB: And were in awe of being allowed to be employed by her. This meant more to them, I think, than gain, remuneration or whatever . . . they were just pleased to be in her summer family for whatever number of years or seasons. She was . . . her leadership was very quiet and certainly not flamboyant and up-front strong . . .

JOHN: She was a forceful speaker and the Camp Director. There was never any doubt about that and she did have program ideas, of course, that she . . .

BARB: Indeed yes, she had an enthusiasm about her that just carried everybody along beautifully. If we were awakened to the third rainy day in a row, she had a way of arriving enthusiastically at breakfast with a huge box of old Christmas cards and wished everybody a Merry Christmas at their breakfast place, after which we were only too glad to launch into making presents for each other and, by the end of the day, we had decorated a tree, dressed a Santa Claus, created reindeer and finished having Christmas Day in July. She was just that kind of person and by the same token on a beautifully still, calm quiet morning, she . . . her mind would turn to all those shells she had brought back from Florida. This was the perfect morning to strew them along the beach and then write a lovely poem for the Juniors when they awakened . . . all they had to do was go down to the beach where they would find that the

mermaid had left treasures for them all along the shore. Those little Juniors would remember that experience throughout their whole lives, probably.

CC: And it was the simple, creative use of seashells she had brought home from Florida . . .

BARB: Exactly, and she just . . . this idea would just come to her . . . the day would somehow present itself as being the perfect day for that to happen. Of course, the Juniors would go home with treasures of shells they had picked up on the beach and . . . they remembered . . . that morning the mermaid came to Glen Bernard and left shells all along the shore. This is the way her mind worked . . . it was just incredible.

CC: It is legendary that she was always noted for doing things for others. Did she ever do anything for herself?

JOHN: I suppose you might say painting was for herself, although she would give her paintings away. No, she . . .

BARB: Travelling . . .

CC: She did a lot of travelling, didn't she?

JOHN: She went around the world with her parents in 1921. She became very enthralled with Japan and made some close friends there. She had Japanese people at Camp and there are still cabins bearing their names. It was devastating to her when the war with Japan broke out. But even at home in the town of Sundridge, she was a quiet, effective leader. It was she who decided they needed a Community Centre, she who made the first contribution, she who went after the Ontario Government to get the money to help. There was a site on the lake called High Rock . . . she bought the 5½ acres of property with some money she had made on the stock market and then spent a great deal of time and money to have it landscaped . . . stonework put in . . . steps so the older people could get down . . . fireplaces . . . a gateway with a plaque commemorated to her parents, who had settled in Sundridge in 1853 . . . then, in 1967, she turned the whole park over to the town of Sundridge and Strong Township.

CC: This was her Centennial Project . . .

JOHN: Yes, through the cooperation of the cottagers and the town people and Glen Bernard Camp, we had a big pageant to open the park. I presented Mary S. with a centennial coin box . . . a beautiful thing . . . I am a coin collector and I thought it would be a nice gift for Mary S. That evening, at her cottage, she was looking at it and she said, "My, that is pretty, I wonder who I can give it to". This was typical of everything she ever did. If you had something, it was to be given away.

CC: Speaking about you being a coin collector, John, on the first of July 1967, Mary collected one coin that we know about and that was the Centennial Medal . . .

JOHN: Yes, and it was presented to her by Dr. Mary Northway which was only fitting . . . do you want me to read this . . .

CC: Please do. There weren't many Canadians who received the Centennial Medal for their contribution to Canada.

BARB: "Centennial Award on March 9, 1968, on the occasion of the closing banquet of the Ontario Camping Association, a Centennial Medal is presented to Miss Mary S. Edgar in recognition of her service to Camping", the citation was read by Dr. Mary L. Northway.

CC: It was mentioned that she travelled for herself, but it really wasn't for herself, was it? She brought from Japan some ideas that she incorporated into Camp. She did the same thing when she went to Florida, brought back those shells so they could be included in a program . . .

BARB: On her trips west, she learned about the customs of the Indians . . . and the peace pipe . . . and initiations and challenges and all those ceremonies that she introduced into Glen Bernard's Council Ring Ceremony. These things stayed forever throughout her Chiefdom in the Council Ring. Then, in my years too, we continued on the tradition of those parts of real Indian Council Rings that she studied and learned about when she was travelling west.

CC: We glossed over the part about the hymns she wrote for the Anglican Church hymnary, but Mary S. Edgar was famous for her one hymn which was the Glen Bernard Camp Hymn.

JOHN: Yes, "God Who Touchest Earth With Beauty". She wrote the words and the music was supplied by Magistrate Jones, James Edmund Jones, whose cottage is on Lake Bernard. He was the founder of the Aura-Lee Boys' Club. I still get letters from places wanting to use that hymn . . . I just had one from Michigan not long ago asking permission.

BARB: Many a time, as a closing prayer at the conclusion of the Council Ring, I used it because its thoughts are so beautiful about the straightness of the pine trees . . . let my thoughts be upright. It was translated into many languages but, in Japan, the pine tree is anything but straight. It is very crooked, so they had to insert the name of a tree that is straight to make sense. She spoke to me about that and she said she didn't consider this world-known hymn that was translated into many languages to be a wonderful achievement that she had written. She said, "You know, I wrote it in such a short time the words seemed to come from a power above and all I had to do was write them down as I heard them". It was just amazing that she made it sound so simple how those words flowed out of her pen. I marvelled at how simple the words were but how much they meant and she didn't take credit for it being a marvellous piece of literature at all. She just said that something told her what to write.

CC: But it is that . . . a marvellous piece of literature . . . and it is such a beautiful hymn. It must have created a lot of magnificent memories for campers at Glen Bernard.

BARB: Yes there are a great many married ladies today, whose past includes Glen Bernard, who found it important that the Glen Bernard Hymn be included in their wedding in some way . . . at their wedding ceremony. I know I did . . . certainly it was very important to us . . . we felt probably more privileged than anyone to include the Camp Hymn in our Service.

CC: What made this little wisp of a lady so dynamic, so charismatic, so lovable?

BARB: Her childlike sense of wonder, would that be it . . .

JOHN: Yes, I am sitting here thinking about it . . . that is a pretty tough question to answer . . . I would say she was never old, she always thought young, she accepted computers and the jet airplane and always encouraged us and anyone else who was endeavouring to do something new and different. She had great interest in all her great-nieces and nephews and still had that fairy-like touch with our grandchildren or with my sister's children that she had at Camp with the Juniors 40 years ago . . . I don't know how you stay that young . . . it would be wonderful if you could bottle it.

BARB: Well, I know for our children she was so generous about Hallowe'en, well ahead of time, it being an imaginative

time and a costume time. She would enquire if they had made up their minds how they wanted to be dressed for a particular Hallowe'en . . . it was very important to her to be in our home on the 31st of October either to assist our children in getting dressed or in opening the door and seeing what the neighbourhood children were wearing . . . this was all of great interest to her and, many a time if they hadn't decided, she would tell them stories and talk to them and even arrive with her version of a costume. This was a great delight to her to create something they might wear to go out for Hallowe'en. I think this kind of speaks about her imagination, about her delight in children and their imagination . . .

CC: She was lovable and, generally if people are lovable, it is because they are loving . . .

BARB: That is true . . . being a maiden lady, with no children of her own, she was mother or auntie or Aunt Mary to all of them, so interested in their ambitions and their dreams and their interests.

JOHN: One little story . . . after she retired, we had a retirement party for her and I think there were 250 or 300 at the reception. She named everyone, but two, which is an amazing feat because, at that time, she was well into her 70's . . . and she called them all by name . . .

BARB: As well as where they came from . . . and their sisters and brothers and something about the family . . . a very remarkable lady. Mind you, she was a maiden lady so that her husband, her children were all her campers in the Camp and her staff people . . . she devoted all her loving and her interests and her thoughts towards that . . . she made all of her sisters' families her family.

JOHN: She had an uncanny knack of bringing out the best in everyone. They were extremely important to her and she made them feel important.

CC: Once there was a camper and what a camper she was!

BARB: Yes, indeed.

NOTE:

Much more of Mary S. Edgar, both literally and figuratively, is contained in the C.C.A. Publication, "Legacy to a Camper" written by our C.C.A. Immediate Past-President, Jocelyn Palm. "Legacy to a Camper" is available at the C.C.A. Bookstore.

Between The Covers

Where the Sidewalk Ends is a fun collection of poems that would delight and entertain any youngster or adult for that matter. Shel Silverstein is a talented cartoonist who has accompanied his poems with drawings that clearly depict the characters he writes about.

This hard cover book tells tales of Lazy Jane who waits and waits and waits for it to rain so that she can have a drink of water, of a magical eraser that erases a non-believer, a hippo sandwich that sounds delicious but the problem is how to bite into it, and stubborn Melinda Mae who says she can eat a whale . . . so she does!

A great book for a counsellor to borrow from your library. With a small group of campers, the importance of seeing the drawings is possible as the poems are read aloud.

Where the Sidewalk Ends, Harper & Row, 176 p., 1974. Hard-cover. Cost: $17.95 (members)
$21.55 (non-members)

INVITATION

If you are a dreamer, come in,
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer . . .
If you're a pretender, come sit by my fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!

Books listed in "Between the Covers" are available from the Canadian Camping Association Bookstore.

Orders that are $20.00 or less must be prepaid with $2.00 added for shipping. Contact the C.C.A. office by mail or phone:

Canadian Camping Assoication
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2
Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1
(416) 781-4717

Publications Committee — C.C.A.

Entre Les Lignes

Where the Sidewalk Ends est une collection amusante de poèmes qui enchanterait et qui donnerait de joie à n'importe qui. Shel Silverstein est une caricaturiste doucé qui a ajouté à ses poèmes des dessins qui représentent clairement les personnages dont il écrit.

Ce livre raconte les histoires de "Lazy Jane" qui attend le pleuvoir pour qu'elle puisse boire de l'eau, d'une gomme magique qui efface un non-purtisan, d'un sandwich d'un hippopotame qu'on trouvera délicieux si on pourra découvrir comment le manger, et de Melinda Mae, obstinée, qui dit qu'elle peut manger une baleine . . .donc elle le fait!

C'est un livre fantastique pour faire disponible dans votre bibliothèque. Il est possible pour un petit groupe de campeurs de voir les dessins comme on lit à haute voix les poèmes.

Where the Sidewalk Ends, Harper & Row, 176 p., 1974.
Coûte: $17.95 (membres)
$21.55 (non-membres)

MY BEARD

My beard grows to my toes,
I never wears no clothes,
I wraps my hair
Around by bare,
And down the road I goes.

Les livres figurant dans "Entre les lignes" sont disponibles de la librairie de l'association des Camps du Canada.

Les commandes de $20.00 ou de moins doivent être payés d'avance, accompagnés de $2.00 pour le poste.

Mettez-vous en rapport avec le bureau de l'ACC par le poste ou par la téléphone:

Canadian Camping Association
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1
(416) 781-4717

UNDER OPEN SKIES

The C.C.A./A.C.C. magazine is proud to devote these few pages to the poetry, prose and drawings of Mary S. Edgar.

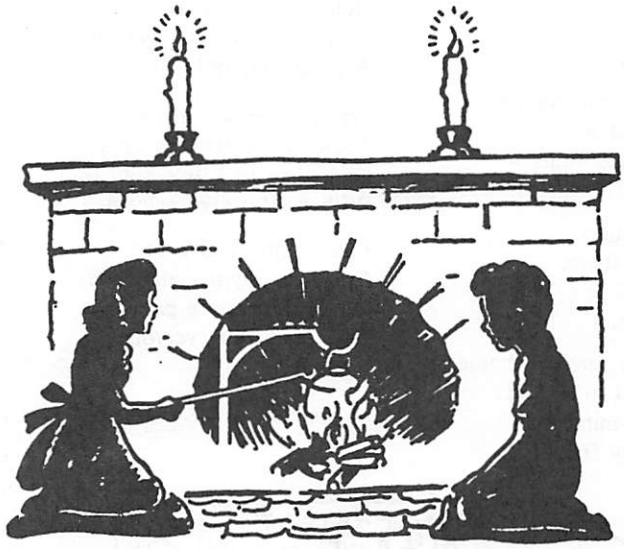
Mary was the author of three delightful, inspirational books which continue to enhance the camping community and the lives of the children in our camps. Below are excerpts from each of her publications. Mary's messages are eternal.

Taken from Wood-Fire and Candle-Light, published in 1945 by The MacMillan Company of Canada Limited.

A ciel ouvert

La revue de l'ACC/CCA est fière de consacrer ces quelques pages à la poésie, à la prose et aux dessins de Mary S. Edgar.

Mary était auteur de trois livres enchantants qui suscitent l'inspirations et qui continuent à augmenter le communité de camping et les vies des enfants dans nos camps. En-dessous se trouve des extraits de chacune de ses publications. Les messages que Mary a communiqués sont éternels.



Friendship

If life held nothing else
But the gift of friends;
If but one friend were true
Until the long trail ends;
If two kind eyes looked deep,
And clearly saw in you
The best and worst there was,
Yet still believed you true;
If even one strong hand
Should reach to you and give
With understanding clasp
A braver will to live;
Life would be rich indeed
And more than worth its tears,
For friendship still abides
Beyond the farthest years.

A Legacy to a Camper

If I had power to make this will,
I would bequeath to you
The child-like sense of wonder
To last the long years through.

Wonder — the gift of magic sight,
To see with eager eyes
Each miracle of beauty
In forest, lake and skies:

The scarlet flames of autumn,
The tender shades of spring,
The luna moth unfolding
Her gossamer green wing;

The clear call of the hermit thrush,
The crescent moon swung low,
The sunset from a hilltop,
The firelight's ruddy glow.

A legacy of wonder!
Could you but guess its worth!
No other precious dower
Would so transform the earth.

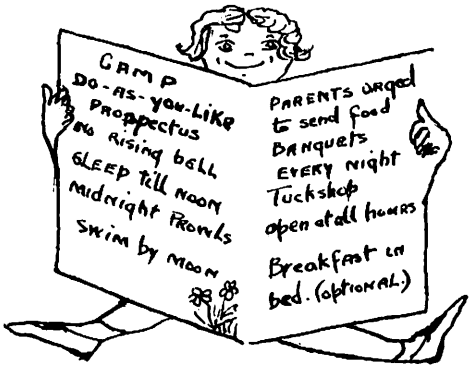
The Upward Road

I will follow the upward road today,
I will keep my face toward the light,
I will think kind thoughts as I go my way,
I will do what I know is right.

I will look for the flowers by the side of the road,
I will laugh and love and be strong,
I will try to lighten another's load
This day as I fare along.

Taken from Once There Was A Camper, published in 1970 by G.R. Welch Company Limited.

THE DREAM-CAMP



Once there was a camper
Who claimed, "When I am grown
I'm going to have a *super* camp
With ideas of my own."

"There'll never be a rising bell,
No rules! We'll sleep till noon,
We'll prowl about till mid-night
And swim by silvery moon.

"Parents will be *urged* to send
Food hampers by express,
So campers can indulge each night
In *banquets* more or less."

She out lined her prospectus
To each wide-eyed cabin-mate.
"This camp will be progressive
And strictly up-to-date."

"I have to count on each of you
As a true and loyal friend
To have a *dozen* children
And all of them to send."

Postscript

She's produced four sturdy children,
Each one a little scamp!
"I wish they were interned," she sighs,
In a strict no-nonsense camp."

DIETING

Once there was a camper
Whose counselor heard her say
To the campers at her table
In the dining room one day:

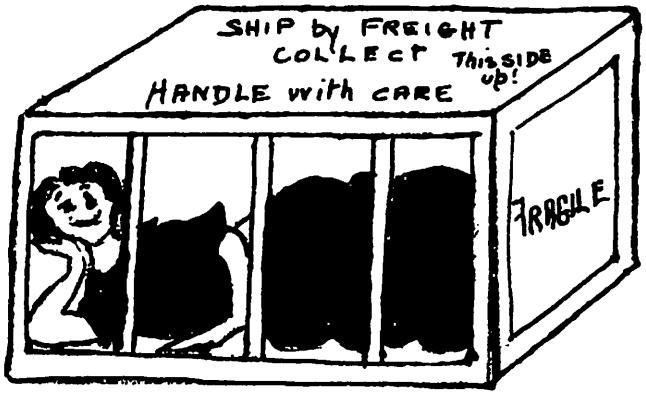
"The meals we get are very good.
I'm really quite surprised!
And specially relieved to know
The milk is *paralyzed.*

"I'm going to lose a lot of weight,
I'm dieting," she said.
"I never take potatoes
Nor eat a slice of bread."

Yet strange to say that camper-child
Ate cakes and tarts and buns,
Puddings, pies and dough-nuts—
Adding weight by tons.

First in line for tuck-shop,
For "seconds" always there;
Wider grew her waist-line
With every bill-of-fare.

Her counselor sent this message home:
"Your child has gained in weight.
We hope you will not mind it
If we ship her home by freight."



A SALUTE

Once there was a camper,
(A thousand I would guess)
No tales have I about them
But I love them none the less.

Straight and lithe young bodies
Tanned with summer sun,
Ready for adventure
Eager for its fun.

Keen to learn new camping skills,
Quick to lend a hand,
Lavish with their friendship
A loyal, happy band.

Serious they are at times
To work, to will, to dream;
Facing up to Life's high trail
With wistful eyes agleam.

Fond salute I give you
Ere these rhymes are done.
On your separate pathways
God bless you everyone!

Taken from Under Open Skies, published in 1955 by Clarke, Irwin & Company Limited.

Our Task

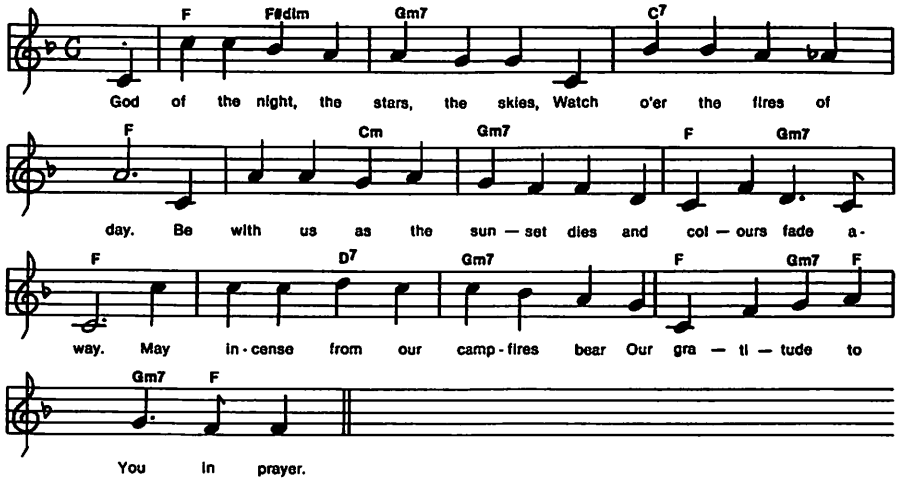
We may not lead the orchestra,
Nor play first violin,
Nor see our name high-lighted
Upon the silver screen.
Ours may not be the picture
Within the gallery hung,
Nor may we write the song hit
To be by millions sung.

But if we do our special job
In an extra special way,
The inner satisfaction
Will immeasurably repay.
For honest effort in a task
Its own reward will show,
Though we win no shiny medal,
Deep within a pride will glow.

For each of us inherits
A gift that is our own,
And the world will be the poorer
If our work is left undone.
May we have a vision,
And a purpose strong and true,
To be a worthy craftsman,
In the work that's ours to do.

A CAMP VESPER HYMN

Words by Mary S. Edgar, Music by Jack Pearse, © 1979 Jack Pearse Limited.



2. Most days begin with songs of birds
And meadows bright with dew,
With breezes blowing fresh and clean
Beneath a sky of blue.
Our meals combined with songs and fun
Bring comradeship for everyone.

3. We thank you for eventful days
That challenge us to try
To play the game with sportsmanship
And set our standards high.
Now as the daylight fades away
We thank you for a happy day.

THE SENSE OF WONDER

Near my cabin, two small campers had obviously discovered something by the path to the lake. It was an unusual sight to see these ever-active nine-year-olds so motionless. I watched for a while from the window, then, out of curiosity, joined them. They were breathlessly watching a moth which had emerged from a drab grey chrysalis. Slowly the exquisite pale-green wings of a luna moth were unfolding and the delicate mauve spots were being revealed on its shining fragile wings. There was only hushed silence. A whistle sounded from the wharf for swimming, the juniors' most popular activity of the day, but neither of them paid the slightest attention. They were completely enthralled, for a miracle was happening before their wondering eyes.

Indeed, miracles *do* happen, and those who have the good fortune to spend much time in the out-of-doors will often discover in the ever-changing beauty of the days and nights some amazing thing which holds them spellbound. This sense of wonder is perhaps our most precious heritage.

Meditation Out of Doors

It is good for tired nerves
To sit quietly
In a place of refreshing beauty.

It is healing for the soul
To let the eyes wander
Unhurriedly over a broadloom of grass.

It is an inspiration for the spirit
To look at blue sky
Through a canopy of pine trees.

It is peace for the whole being
To rest silently
And wait for an unspoken word.

Light

The moonlight makes a shining path
As wide as the widest sea,
Yet the tiniest ship is in focus
On the ocean's immensity.
Direct and clear as a beacon
The light comes straight and free.

How can one doubt the sufficiency
Of God's abounding light,
Streaming forth to all mankind,
In a radiance infinite;
Yet coming direct to each separate craft,
To guide its course aright.

FIRE!/FEU!

THE OCONTO DINING HALL FIRE

"Lisa and Bruce! The Dining Hall is burning! I'm not kidding!" Slam went the door.

That was our wake up call three mornings before our campers arrived. We ran out the door, looked up, and saw the most enormous roaring, ball of fire imaginable. Obviously the fire was out of control and far too hot to approach. All we could do was try to contain it. It was about 5:45 a.m. perfectly still, and drizzling rain — the weather was on our side! Thankfully, the building had fields on two sides, the third had a road behind it and then a utility building (it didn't burn), the fourth side had a small bush — therefore our main worry. Our staff, at camp for Pre-Camp training, were fantastic despite a flu bug that was making its rounds. All fire fighting equipment in camp was gathered and organized in a couple of minutes. An assembly line for water buckets from the lake up a long hill to the Dining Hall was formed — about 200 yards long. Buildings close by were sprayed from hand pumps, and the bush area was similarly covered. The volunteer fire department of both Oso and Hichinbrooke Townships were at camp within a short 12 minutes. Their efforts and concern were tremendous. However, the Dining Hall was completely destroyed. No other buildings, or activity sites were lost. The Hall prepared and fed meals for over 300. It was beautiful, the nicest building in camp, 20 years old. Gone. Absolutely nothing left but three stone fireplaces.

Once the fire was under control the enormity started to hit!:

- — three hundred bodies to feed in 3 days; no food and no place to feed them
- — a lot of camp memorabilia — gone
- — all equipment and food gone

I can remember saying to myself several times — you're lucky no one was hurt! So, what do we do now?

First, we needed breakfast for eighty, chilly and challenged staff. We telephoned the local grocery store and told them our plight. They were very helpful even at 7:00 a.m. We sent up our truck with two people and loaded it up with bread, P.B. and J., fresh oranges, coffee and hot chocolate. We didn't have a toaster, but fortunately some of our staff had electric kettles. Our dishes, of course, were gone, but enough were scrounged up in the Trip Room and from personal staff dishes intended for picnics and canoe trips.

We telephoned people that we knew that might have been able to help. We certainly used many of our connections! At a time like this you need all the help you can get, friends stand up with flags willing to do anything possible. We needed to feed 300 people in three days, we needed some special resources.

The Army was a big help to us, they were able to supply stoves, tables and chairs for three hundred. They did whatever they could after they were sure that all civilian resources were tapped. We therefore had to pay a nominal fee.

We also telephoned A.T.C.O. which is a company that supplies portable kitchen and dining facilities for various groups such as lumber and mining camps. We were able to get a six tractor trailer unit, three for kitchen and three for dining. These were put up side by side and the walls were removed in-between, it then looked like one large room. There were certainly problems getting the units down and set up — most problems being transportation due to the long weekend and unionized days of travel. The re-hook-up at our end was a wee nightmare but it all worked out in the end. We also used one of our smaller lodges, nearby, to alleviate some of the crowding. Before the hook up was complete (for two weeks) we ate in two shifts per meal, the cooks using three domestic stoves and three refrigerators. Food was brought into camp to be cooked and served immediately as there was little storage space. Water was connected from a nearby shower house. Serving was completely paper, foam or plastic all summer — WOW — did we have a lot of garbage but unfortunately, we had no choice. We found it important to keep your staff posted on what is going on, they want and need to know. They also want to help out. We are grateful that all aspects of our insurance policy are up to date, this includes the "extra expense" clause. This is for such un-forseen expenses like paper and plastic service for the Summer, refrigerators and other equipment that must be bought for short term use that will never be used again, and other expenses too countless to mention.

The Health Inspector was in frequently. They must ensure that everything is sanitary and that the food is good. Most of their policies we found normal and reasonable. Some days we were sure that our Inspectors' superior had just said "this camp has just had a major tragedy, no one was hurt, but you make sure that nothing else happens!" and consequently, he seemed to be monitoring every detail under the sun!

We were very fortunate to have lots of support from family and friends. Lisa's parents, June and Cliff Labbett were sleeping soundly in Toronto that Tuesday morning at 6:30 a.m., needless-to-say their feet didn't touch the ground for weeks after the fire. They were busy running here and there, buying pots, pans, cutlery, and dishes. They also made hundreds of phone calls to make the necessary emergency arrangements. Add to that the T-shirts they bought for all of the staff members. The shirts carried the slogan, "Together We're Hot". What a morale booster! We had support and practical help from many friends and family members to whom we will always be grateful.

Hopefully, this information can prove helpful to someone one day. Although we wouldn't wish a fire on anyone, if you ever do face the tragedy of a camp fire, then please contact us, we will do anything possible to help.

Bruce and Lisa Wilson
Summer (613) 375-6678
Winter (416) 425-9796

Quand un cas urgent frappe, c'est le plus souvent sans alerte. Le feu est particulièrement effrayant à cause de sa menace au propriété et à la vie humaine. Cet article écrit par Bruce et Lisa Wilson et la lettre d'un de leurs employés qui le suit nous donnent des pensées et des émotions provoquées par un feu à Camp Oconto juin dernier. Il explique aussi des procédures quand il y a une crise.

COURTESY OF SCOTT CARTOON LTD.

"THE WHOLE DINING HALL WAS ENGULFED IN FIRE"

AN OCONTO STAFF MEMBER'S ACCOUNT

June 24, 1986

Dear Mom and Dad,

Writing to you guys has been a task that has been in the back of my mind for the last couple of days — "Pre-camp" has proven to be a major time consumer so I'm just getting around to it now.

Actually I have jotted a few quick lines to you over the past couple of days but nothing seems significant any more. All of a sudden I have so much to pass on to you and the story isn't as trivial as my original letter which was centered around my complaints about "E.P." horn and procedures — (Emergency Procedure — search). The fact that over half of my underwear and bras are soaked (because of the practice procedures that are sounded in the middle of anything) is no longer the camp's biggest mutual problem.

This morning I awoke in my usual manner, hearing the camp bell gonging in the distance — actually not really registering that I had heard it, stirring in my sleep enough to realize that I had 20 minutes to get to breakfast. Within minutes someone on staff in Senior Section came charging through our section screaming at us (I'm in Chip Section up on the hill). Initially, because of the sort of giddy tone in her voice we all moved to a semi-sitting position in disbelief exclaiming — "How do they expect us to do an E.P. at such an early hour?" Again, within seconds, we realized that the screamer's giddiness was rather panic as the words began to fly. This was no typical wake-up bell — it was 5:30 a.m.! . . . I have just passed about five of the worst hours of my entire life! There was a fire in the dining hall — this was no minor fire like the one (if you remember) I wrote to you about from Tads.

Before I continue — don't analyze my intelligence by this letter — the words — the writing — and my general sense of confusion. It is the feeling of everyone in the camp today — especially the "oldies" (of which I am among the oldest as far as Oconto years goes!). It is hard to write exactly how I feel but nothing seems real at the moment. My body is exhausted (beyond 'ski-racing' type exhaustion) but there are too many "what if's" running through my mind for it to be at rest. I don't want to see any fire like this one ever again in my life. I'm starting to shake now as I slow down to recall it all.

As I re-read this I remember Grandpa's famous April fool on Shannon — I see no humour in that now. The remains of the dining hall are expected to smoulder for "a day or so." The remains amount to nothing more than the stone fire-places — 3 — in each section of the hall, and the foundation of the building. Honestly — this is no joke — it's real. I know you think of me as a joker usually but this was real — keep reading and you'll see I'm bound to drop a tear on the page soon. It's hard to know if I'm relaying the right tone or mood through my words — I swear I'm not trying to outdo Grandpa. I wish, for Lisa and Bruce's sake, that I was.

Remember the Morrison's fire — it was no bigger than my body? This one was humungus Mom and Dad — the whole dining hall was engulfed in a big ball of fire. I cannot believe how big and red it was. The heat was incredible — we were filling fire buckets with more sweat than water — OK — a slight exaggeration!

What amazed me was how fast and well the staff pulled together. The entire staff was up and passing the fire buckets in like zero time! I was among the first to arrive. I don't remember one step of my run down Chip hill towards Main Beach — somehow I got there with a fire bucket in my hand. Automatically we started a running assembly of water buckets up the hill. I ran from my cabin in "Chips" to Main Beach and then up and down the office hill with buckets six times with two buckets of water before there were enough people to make a passing line. The line was so efficient — as I reflect back it was actually rather amazing.

Any fire I've ever seen that amounted to anything has been on TV. I don't ever want to see a fire like that again. I still shudder and I probably always will when I recall the "roar" of the fire ball surrounding us.

Oh my gosh — it was so threatening to be working at the top of the hill — some poor people had to go to the parking lot behind to move their cars. Fortunately the cars all started despite the heat. The drivers could barely open the handles — for the metal was too hot. Imagine trying to drive a car when it is that hot and the only view from any mirror is a glowing orange color. I can't believe it happened at all — nothing seems real!

Firetrucks did finally come — it seemed like forever though. They say it took only about 15 - 20 minutes. Not bad for three volunteer country units to get together I guess. All I could feel was anger though — they really didn't seem to do much more than wait because of the propane tanks. It was so sad for us all when we recognized that no attempt could be

made to save anything. Once the firemen got here an assembly line was basically useless. As we all carried our full buckets up to the crest of the hill it finally began to sink in — I mean what had actually happened. The new staff sort of gathered together in an emotionless clump and the "oldies" just bit our fists and cried silently. It was so eery and ominous — the kind of view you only see in a movie!

Another sad note — only yesterday in one of the pre-camp sessions, Mr. and Mrs. Labbett were in camp to speak. We all sat in the Dining Hall listening to them speak for most of the afternoon. The strangest part of it all was that, by request, "Mr. L." gave his traditional "Dining Hall Speech" — a speech he used to always give to "stall" at banquet before announcing tribe points! It included all the dining hall trivia — everything from the number of nails to the number of kilometers of glass strips and board lengths! The roof weighed seven tons. He told us the number of rocks in the fireplace and shingles on the roof. Kind of eerie, eh! Man — they were so proud of that hall though! He always loved giving that speech. He talked about putting the shingles on in the freeze of November 20 years ago. Fortunately, they were back in T.O. this morning — I say fortunately because they were working hard from there I bet making all the necessary arrangements.

Later . . . .

Hi again — it is now after dinner. Yes we got food — two meals of PB and J sandwiches and fruit and hot soup. We have a mini-kitchen set up in "Chimo", the Senior Lodge. The communities around here have always struck me as being poor but we have two freezers donated by a local dairy already. Speaking of help — Lisa and Bruce certainly have their families close at hand. Kirk Labbett and his wife Dawn came up this afternoon — you met them at our last family camp, Dad. She is here to be a nurse for July. In addition, Bruce's family seems to be close at hand too (I gather this through phone messages.) You should have seen him at five this morning — Lisa too. They both looked so awful yet they were so together. As always, Lisa was the "people" person doing head counts etc., and Bruce was tearing all over camp turning off power and organizing maintenance. They both looked so old for a while there! Did they ever earn a lot of respect though. Not once did Lisa ever suggest delaying camp. Bruce got right on the phone organizing a lot since the fire. A new hall will be started in the same location in September. We have army mobile kitchens coming in for the summer — some of the rubble may be bulldozed by Friday. I still can't believe it's gone. So much was lost — tribe plaques, original camp photos, 5 year / 10 year brass plaques, original pictures, international flags from campers, the "grace bell" — to name a few.

One good piece of news came out at dinner — the building, the equipment, the food — they were all totally insured under a "very understandable" policy that has grown over the years thanks to Mr. Labbett. I didn't know that he was an insurance man. That takes a bit of the strain off I guess.

It is now 11:30 p.m. — it was great to talk to you both. I realized afterwards that I spent a lot of time wanting to write to you — even in that situation. Maybe that looks promising for my letter writing potential next year! I guess I'm as close to you now as I am when I'm home! Thanks Mom — for giving me the ability to organize quickly. It proved useful this morning at getting things going. When there was a bit of a lull, Kathy and I ducked into the "bung" and made a big pot of coffee and found a plate of muffins to take up to Lisa, Bruce and Fred (the custodian) at 7:00 a.m. Not bad eh — how about me actually functioning in a kitchen at that hour! Kinda shocking but you helped me do that!! And Dad — this thanks goes directly to you — sorry Mom!! Thanks for giving me the ability to stay calm! I really never panicked — just got to work! It would not have been hard to freak out in this situation.

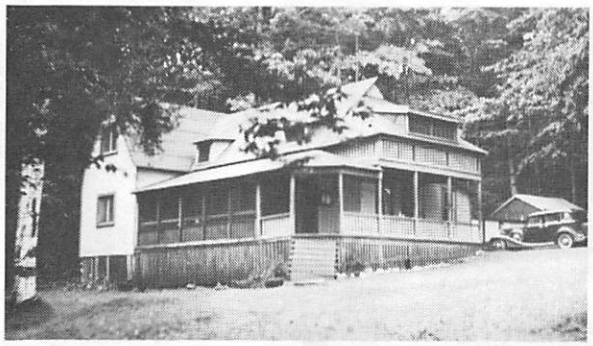
We'll chat more on Saturday!

Don't miss me too much!

Love,

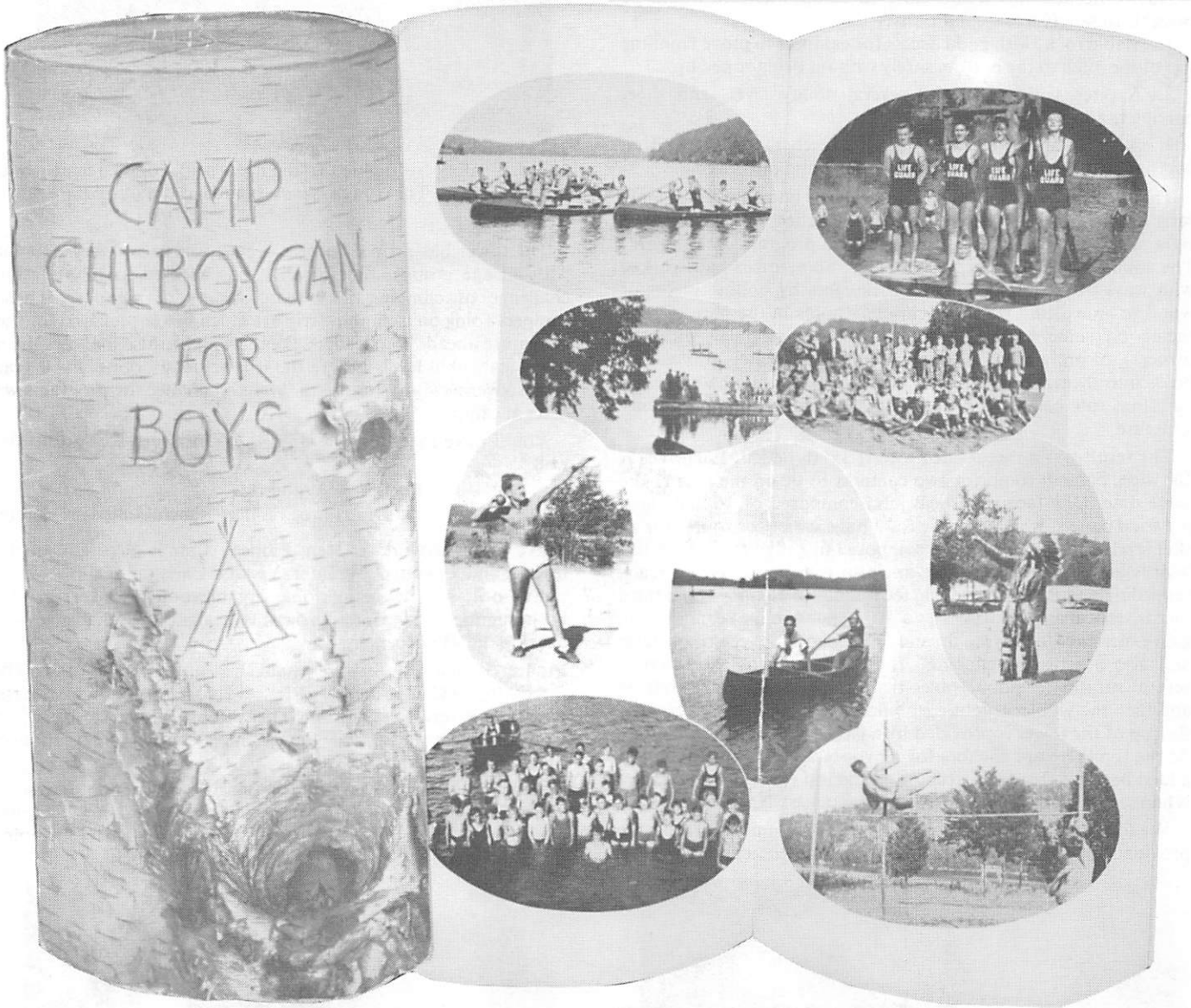
"Allison"

Allison was a 1986 Camp Oconto Staff Member who was awakened in the early, early morning to help fight the Oconto Dining Hall blaze. The foregoing letter to her Parents is a vivid description of that terrible morning in June.



Camp Cheboygan, located on the south shore of Skeleton Lake in Muskoka, enjoyed a great old "lodge" in 1936. They lost the lodge in an all consuming fire in the evening of August 25, 1937. Pictures are courtesy of Dr. H. S. Hamilton, Surrey, B.C.

Camp Cheboygan, que se trouve à la rive de sud de Skeleton Lake à Muskoka, a joui d'une grande et vieille en 1936. Ils ont perdu la loge dans un feu tout-ecompassant pendant le soir du 25e août, 1937. Les photos avec la permission de Dr. H. S. Hamilton, Surrey, C.B.



This picture page is from a brochure for Camp Cheboygan printed in the mid 30's — Great canoes! Great Shotput! Great bathing suits!

The Archives Committee is trying to track down some more information about Camp Cheboygan and its Director Blyth Thomas. If you have any information which might prove useful then please contact the O.C.A. office (address on back cover).

Cette page de photos vient d'une brochure pour Camp Cheboygan imprimée pendant les années trente — Quels maillots! Quels canots! Quel lancer du poids!

Le comité des archives cherche plus d'informations sur Camp Cheboygan et son directeur, Blyth Thomas. Si vous avez des informations qui pouvaient être utiles, s'il-vous plaît mettez-vous en rapport avec le bureau de l'A.C.O. (l'adresse se trouve tout aufond de revue).

GOING UP THE WALL

En montant la mur

L'usage d'une mur pour la montée comme activité challengeant et pour la pratique des d'extérités a profité au programme de Pioneer Ranch en Alberte. Bernie Woods, directeur des Camps Pioneer Ranch décrit le programme.

For many years our camp had offered climbing trips to our more senior campers. These four to seven day trips were popular and offered the challenge and adventure of an alpine ascent in the Canadian Rockies. These programs were limited however by the distances involved, the training needed for campers, and the strength factor needed to participate in an alpine ascent. "Wouldn't it be great" we thought, "if there was some way to involve more campers in the challenge of climbing?"

All we needed was a site close to camp where it would be possible to satisfy a few conditions:

1. Stable rock, with good access for campers to move from the top of the pitch to the bottom safely without being roped up.

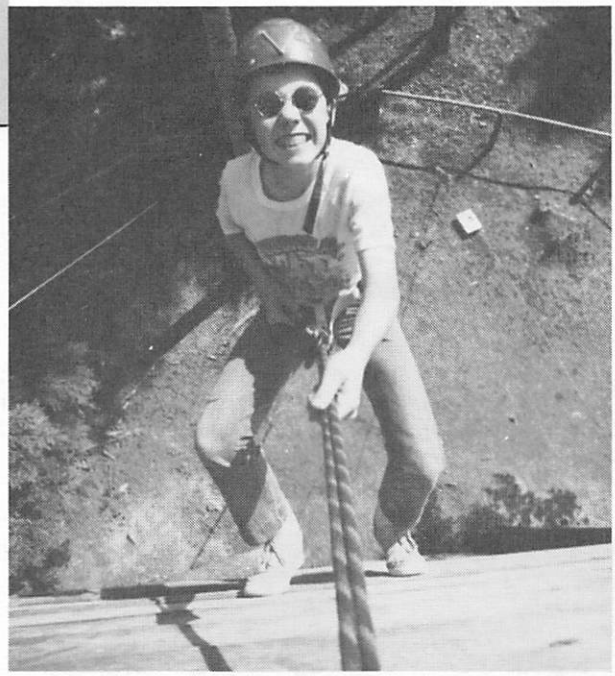
2. A pitch with routes for several ability levels and short enough to top rope all routes.

3. A lower angle face on which to teach rappelling and an overhang on which to practise free rappells and prussicking.

The problem was, the closest site was an hour away and only satisfied half the conditions. What we needed was a mountain right at camp if we were going to make this program option work. The solution had just become obvious. Some of us had worked with ways of creating simulated rock faces by bolting pieces of wood to an existing wall, (or chiseling holds in the natural rock facing on some buildings — a process not popular with the owners), or prefabricating laminated plywood panels and cutting holds into them, then fastening these to a wall. We had no such buildings at camp, but what if we built a freestanding structure . . .?

The result was a three-sided tower, 35' in height. Each face is 16' wide, enough room for two campers to be on the face at the same time. One face is vertical, and composed of 16 laminated plywood panels, which provide for a huge variety of routes for all skill levels. The second face is composed of rough sawn 3" x 10" boards and sits at a 75 degree angle so that it is easier to teach rappelling and mountain rescue techniques to campers. The third face is vertical and incorporates a 3' overhang so that campers can gain experience in moving up and down over this type of obstacle and also practise prussicking. The foundation of the tower is several surplus telephone poles tied together with large timbers and then the whole structure stabilized with guy wires. Access to the top of the tower is provided by a ladder and platform system. At the top there are anchors for six ropes, two for each face. An added bonus is that an instructor on the top can quickly see what is happening on each face and offer assistance when necessary.

We found that a coat of porch enamel with some sand mixed in provided for lots of protection and grip on the climbing faces,



and that safety tread glued to the holds with contact cement was quite durable. The rough-sawn boards did not require any coating.

The tower has proved to be a great asset and is very popular with all age groups. Best of all it has allowed us to offer the challenge of climbing to a wide variety of campers. Those campers going on a climbing trip are much better prepared for the adventure ahead. Trip leaders like the wall because it allows them to evaluate skill levels before the trip actually begins. Each year we discover new ways to use the wall to enhance the programs we offer at camp.

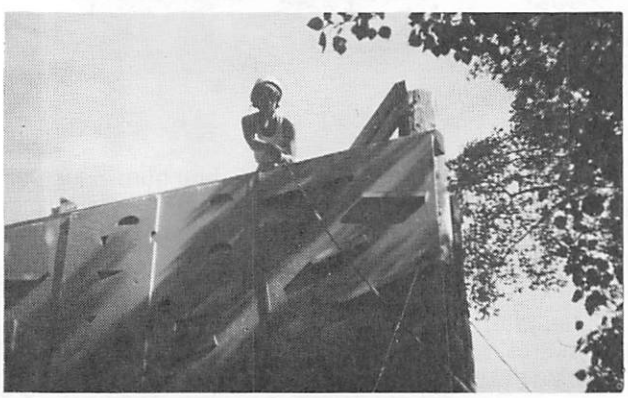
You'll have to excuse me now — it's my turn to "go up the wall"!

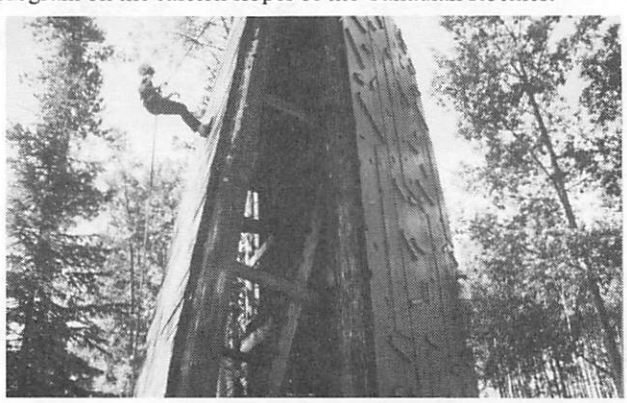
by Bernie Woods,
Director of Pioneer Ranch Camps in Alberta.

There is a network of ten Pioneer Camps across Canada, owned and operated by Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, a non-profit, interdenominational organization. Pioneer features both summer and winter programs designed to challenge and develop the whole person.

Pioneer Ranch Camps were established in Alberta in 1951. The three Alberta Camps include: Pioneer Lodge, near Sundre, on the Red Deer River; Pioneer Ranch, near Rocky Mountain House, in Crimson Lake Provincial Park; and Peace Country Pioneer operating from Grande Prairie.

The history and major program emphasis is instruction in western equitation. They also have programs in lake and whitewater canoeing, climbing, windsurfing, and an extensive tripping program on the eastern slopes of the Canadian Rockies.





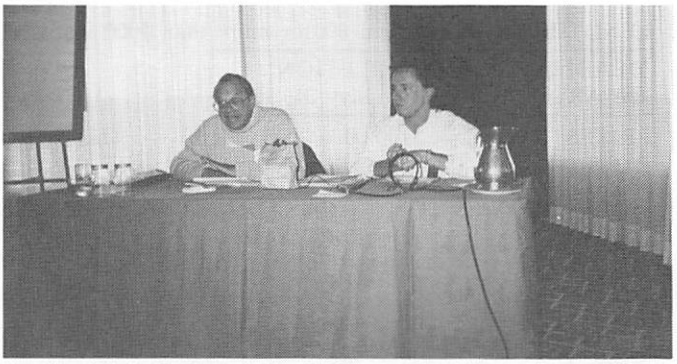
1987 O.C.A. CONFERENCE

INN ON THE PARK TORONTO

January 15, 16, 17, 1987

Lisa Wilson and Camp Oconto staff lead singing at the closing banquet. This is not a mass holdup, just an action song!

*Former C.C.A. Executive Director, **Marjorie Booth** of Mooredale Day Camp is boarding the "rickshaw" while **Jim Jensen** (left) and **Dave Newnham** (right) of **Y.M.C.A. Camp Wanakita** serenade supporters on their way to the C.C.A. Benefit Chinese Dinner.*

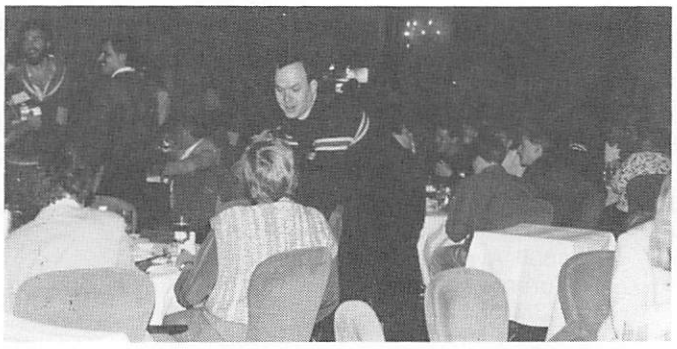


***Joe Kronick** (left), O.C.A. Board Secretary and his son **Adam** of **Camp White Pine** conduct a session entitled "Second Generation Camp Directors". Look who's doing the talking . . . Dad!*

*From left to right: **Jane McCutcheon,** Senior Editor of **Canadian Camping Magazine,** O.C.A. President, **Fred Okada** of **Bolton Camp, Gloria Okada,** Fred's wife, and O.C.A. Public Relations Chairman, **Michael Southam** of **Camp Otterdale** agree that this is really some conference.*

*The C.C.A. bookstore is a busy place as **David Sands** of **Illahee Northwoods Camp** makes a purchase from **Judy MacGowan** of **Mooredale Day Camp.** C.C.A. Publications Chairman, **Nancy Barker** (right) of the **Rocky Mountain Y.M.C.A. Camp (Alta.)** explains to David that she has a book to help him in his capacity as C.C.A. Liaison to the 1987 International Camping Congress.*

*From left to right: O.C.A. Vice-President **Liz Greenway** of **Y.W.C.A. Camp Tapawingo,** Conference Keynote Speaker **Mickey Johnstone** of **Alberta** who is an O.C.A. Life Member, **Kirsty Griffiths** of the **Ontario Private Campgrounds Association,** O.C.A. Conference Chair, **Diane Blair** of **Camp Gay Venture** share breakfast conversation.*



*C.C.A./A.C.C. Vice-President (Atlantic Region), **Ian Fowler** of **Moncton, N.B.** outlines to C.C.A./A.C.C. President, **Janet Adamson** of **Camp Gay Venture** exactly how C.C.A./A.C.C. can accomplish its 1987 goals.*

BUBBY NASH AWARD

For Creative Writing
To Honour Anne Nashman
of Camp Wahanowin

CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE and Camp Wahanowin welcome articles of creative writing from campers or staff members of Canadian camps. This annual writing contest carries with it $200.00 in prizes and the winning articles will be published in future editions of CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE.

TOPIC: "WHAT CAMPING DOES FOR ME"

ELIGIBLE WRITERS: Campers and/or staff from Canadian Camps. Articles may be written in French or English.

LENGTH: Not less than 800 or more than 1000 words.

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF ARTICLE: May 31, 1987

PRIZES: 1st — $100.00
Runners-Up — Two at $50.00 each

SEND ARTICLES TO: CANADIAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION,
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2,
Toronto, Ontario
M3M 3Z1

Anne Nashman

PLEASE ENCOURAGE CAMPERS AND STAFF IN YOUR CAMP TO PARTICIPATE

DEADLINE EXTENDED!

PRIX BUBBY NASH

Pour l'écriture créative
en l'honneur d'Anne Nashman
du Camp Wahanowin

La revue Canadian Camping et le Camp Wahanowin ont besoin d'articles en écriture créative de campeurs ou de personnel de camps canadiens.

Ce concours annuel en écriture créative inclus $200.00 en prix et les textes choisis seront publiés dans les éditions à venir de la revue Canadian Camping.

SUJET: Ce que le Camping m'apporte.

OUVERT: à tous les campeurs et personnel de Camps Canadiens

LONGUEUR: pas moins de 800 mots pas plus de 1000 mots

DATE LIMITE: 31 Mai 1987

PRIX: 1er prix: $100.00
et 2 prix de $50.00 chacun

ENVOYEZ VOS ARTICLES À:
CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2,
Toronto, Ontario
M3M 3Z1

Anne Nashman

S.V.P. encourez vos campeurs et votre personnel à participer.

A PROGRAM PARADE

Un étalage de programmes

Si vous êtes employé à un camp ou si vous êtes engagé dans l'importe quelle manière dans la jeunesse, vous reconnaissez le besoin d'une réserve presque inépuisable d'idées de programmation. On a le problème que comme le grandeur, l'âge, le sexe, le temps permis, la situation et l'équipement changent, il y a aussi un changement d'idée opportune. En-dessous, il y a de différentes situations ou de groupes avec un exemple de chacun. Faites une contre-épreuve avec votre catalogue de ressources et utilisez-les quand vous avez l'opportunité.

If you are on staff at a camp or involved in any way with youth then you recognize the need for a virtually endless supply of program ideas. The problem is that as size, age, sex, time frame, physical set up and equipment change then so, too, changes the particular program idea which is appropriate. Below are listed a number of different types of situations or groups along with an example of each. Cross check them against your personal catalogue of resources and use them when you can.

ENROUTE AND ARRIVAL ACTIVITY

FAMOUS BUNKS

Group: A cabin unit

Equipment: Name Tags in Pairs (see below)

As each person enters the room, he has a name tag pinned to his back.

The object of the game is for each person to learn his identity and find his bunk. Each player is allowed to ask one "yes" or "no" question of any other player. At the same time, the two people introduce themselves (their real names!) and shake hands.

Once a person has learned his identity, he tries to find his partner e.g. if he is Romeo, he looks for Juliet, which is pinned to a bunk in the cabin.

The name on the name tag will be one half of a famous pair:

eg. Antony and Cleopatra
Abbott and Costello
Bonnie and Clyde

CABIN GAME

STOMP

This active game is not as brutal as its name suggests provided it is played in stocking feet.

The starting formation is a circle with all participants facing one another. The object is to eliminate other participants by landing on a portion of their foot with a portion of your own (not the heel).

Participants are numbered. Number one has the first chance to take a stomp. He may jump and try to land on the foot of any neighbour. If he is successful then the stompee is out of that round. If he is unsuccessful then it is the turn of number two. Number one remains in the game.

Other people may not jump out of the way until the stomper has jumped but must jump at the same time. This may be used to advantage. If the stomper pretends to jump but does not in fact leave the ground, then all those who actually jump are eliminated. A stomper's turn is not over until he has made an actual jump.

It will end with a head to head (or foot to foot) competition amidst much cheering and the winner's only prize is safe feet and the opportunity to begin the next round.

CABIN AFTERNOON PROGRAM

DROP ME A LINE

This game can be a semi-active exploration hike in the woods or an exciting chase. One team has a head start and carries with it a handfull of 3 inch strings or brightly coloured yarn. As they head off on their cross-country run they leave a trail of strings; each piece within view of the last.

The second team enters the chase shortly after, collecting the strings as they go and announcing their position with loud calls.

The first team continues until they run out of strings, return to the start, or are caught.

OUTTRIP & OUTDOOR FUN

TRICKY TREE TRAIL

The counsellor needs some black thread for this game. He must go out beforehand and prepare some Tricky Trees. He might tie a maple leaf to the branch of a birch, a white pine sprig to a cedar, a balsam shoot to a hemlock.

The campers hiking the trail should spot and remember the location of all the tricky trees. When they are finished the trail, they can announce how many 'tricks' they saw.

Respotting the tricks and identifying the two types of trees will help with nature skills as well as providing lots of fun.

BRAIN TEASER

PEACHES, PEACHES

"Peaches, peaches, very fine peaches,
Very best peaches in town"

This simple poem has confounded more people than any other we know. It is a must every time peaches are served at a mealtime and a common one many times when they're not.

Listeners are encouraged to "Repeat after me" and, clearing your throat, you recite the poem.

At first, the audience will struggle with the structure of the lines or the position of your body, but as they master these they will still face the frustration of hearing from the leader, when they finish, "That was very close, but it wasn't quite right".

The counsellor repeats it once more and clearing his throat he recites the poem.

As a few listeners catch on, the fun and real confusion for others begins. A great way to end this stunt is to have all those who have learned the trick to come forward and recite the poem. They all clear their throats together (quite noticeably) and repeat:

"Peaches, peaches, very fine peaches,
Very best peaches in town"

TABLE OR CIRCLE ACTIVITY

WINK

Another detective game for the amateur sleuth at the table, in a circle or in all-camp.

One person is selected by some secret method to be a murderer. The counsellor may pick him, or he may draw a card, select a short stick, or pick the black marble from a bag.

Now the fun begins. The murderer's lethal weapon is his wink. The victim dies (dramatically please) five seconds after seeing the wink.

Anyone spotting the crime may point the finger of accusation. If incorrect, they too, die but if they are correct another round begins.

RAINY DAY OR QUIET TIME ACTIVITY

BIG BALL OF STRING

If you scavenge and save every bit of string that comes along, you can accumulate a big ball, then pull it out at special times — rainy days, quiet times, etc.

With some imagination, you can completely automate your cabin or tent. Set the amateur engineers to work to see if they can turn on the light or the tap, fetch a book, open and close windows, swat flies and send messages all from the comfort of their own bunks.

Is it possible to use string to rig up an alarm clock for the morning or a booby trap to warn of prowlers? — Of course it is possible! Would we hand you a line?

LARGE GROUP ACTIVITY

MYSTERY TRAILS AND HUNTS

Each camper unit seeks information at predetermined locations to solve a mystery, gain points, or acquire rewards.

The advantage of this type of event is that counsellors and their cabins can stay together and participate as a group at their own pace.

e.g.

Detective — Each station is staffed by a mysterious character who can reveal a clue to the mystery at hand. Clues are assembled and finally detectives file a warrant.

Comic Book Hunt — Staff at stations show a single clue to their comic book identity. (eg. freckles — Archie, rifle — Elmer Fudd). They can answer three questions with either Yes or No. Camper unit must then guess their identity. How many characters can you identify?

Where's Our Snack — Treasure hunts following rhyming clues to the next station and the next station and finally to snack!

Stalk The Animals — This is one of many ideas that could be used to "Hunt the Staff". Staff members, in costumes designed to make them look like animals (e.g. lion, monkey, chipmunk, bear, tortoise, rabbit), find hiding places in a habitat suitable for their species of animal. Campers find the staff and bring them back to an enclosed pen where they might perform some animal trick or feat.

These program descriptions are taken from **Lead On . . . Counsellor,** a Camp Tawingo Publication by Jack Pearse, John Jorgenson, Jane McCutcheon and Pat Pearse.

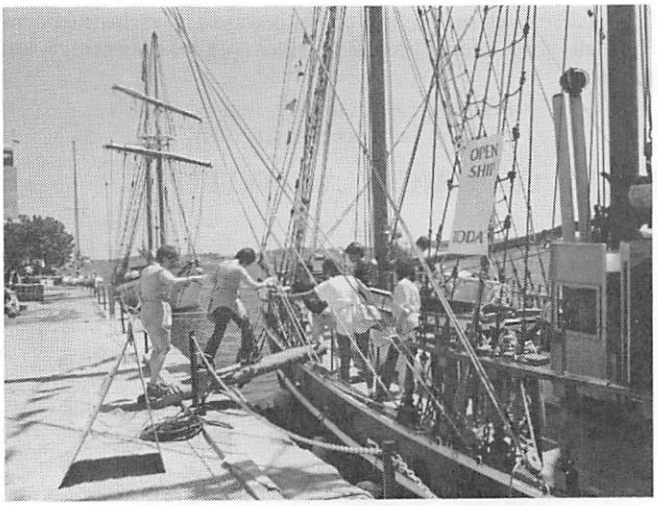


PHOTO FROM TORONTO BRIGANTINE INC.

"A journey of 1,000 (nautical) miles begins with the first step!" Get away . . . to sea!"

CANADA CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN 1987

We owe this centennary to Sir John A. MacDonald who, on June 8, 1887, established the first Migratory Bird Sanctuary in the Western Hemisphere at Last Mountain Lake, south of Saskatoon. Twenty-four years later, on February 13, 1911, the first bird reserve in Alberta was set aside at Ministik Lake (south east of Edmonton).

The Hon. Don Sparrow, Minister of Forestry, Lands, and Wildlife, has recognized the importance of these events and has endorsed the designation of 1987 as a special year for Wildlife Conservation for Alberta.

We earnestly hope that your organization will become involved by helping us celebrate Wildlife '87. You may consider awarding recognition to members in your group who have made or are making a contribution to wildlife conservation. Or you may want to undertake a project to display to the public your involvement with wildlife. We have, for your perusal, enclosed a list of other possible activities. These and those suggested by your executive may stimulate someone in your group to implement one or more of these ideas. It is the spirit of cooperation that will ensure Wildlife '87 is a success.

Should you have questions as to how your group may participate, please contact: Cam Finlay
Chairman
Alberta Wildlife Conservation Centennial
P.O. Box 8644, Station L
Edmonton, Alberta T6C 4J4
Days: 428-3033
Evenings & Weekends: 467-7649

SOME THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

WHEN A CHILD ASKS DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, INVENTION IS THE NECESSITY OF MOTHER.

Maugham S. Wright

THE ROAD TO SUCCESS IS ALWAYS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

Hubert Dorfensplat

TO TRAVEL HOPEFULLY IS A BETTER THING THAN TO ARRIVE.

Robert Louis Stevenson

THE FAULTS OF OTHERS ARE LIKE HEADLIGHTS OF AN AUTOMOBILE. THEY ONLY SEEM MORE GLARING THAN OUR OWN.

Carson Highbeam

WX CAN MAKX A DIFFXRXNCX! XVXR FXXL WX ARX NOT IMPORTANT? THAT WX'RX JUST ANOTHXR KXY ON LIFX'S TYPXWRITXR? WXLL, JUST SXX WHAT HAPPXNS WHXN ONX KXY IS MISSING. SUBSTITUTXS CAN BX MADX BUT THX RXSULTS ARX NXVXR THX SAMX.

X Mark Suspott

HE WHO CUTS HIS OWN WOOD IS WARMED TWICE.

Perce Pyre

WHEN WE PUT OURSELVES IN THE OTHER PERSON'S PLACE, WE'RE LESS LIKELY TO WANT TO PUT HIM IN HIS PLACE.

U. Ken Countonit

"OUR FRAGILE WORLD – A CHALLENGE FOR THE OUTDOOR COMMUNITY"

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CAMPING CONGRESS

March 3-5, 1987 Shoreham Hotel Washington, D.C.

Glen Bernard Camp

CANADIAN LEADERSHIP AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON
(AS OF THE MOST RECENT PRINTED PROGRAM)

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

S100G CONVENTION SPECIAL EVENT. "GETTING TOGETHER: ORGANIZATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY," Rod Napier, PhD., AEE, Co-Director, The Temagami Experience, Canada.

P122G "CAMP SONGS FROM HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD." Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon, Jim Knowlton, Tom Knowlton and Mark Baldwin, Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario.

R132G "INTERNSHIPS: MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL," Brent G. Dysart, Waterloo County Catholic School Board, Waterloo, Ontario.

P142G "GOT A MINUTE: BACKPOCKET PROGRAM IDEAS," John Jorgenson, Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario.

P163G "SIMPLE TECHNIQUES FOR ART OUTDOORS; ANYONE CAN DRAW," Ralph Ingleton, Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre, Downsview, Ontario.

P170G "SUPERVISING INSTRUCTORS," Rod Napier, AEE, Co-Director, The Temagami Experience, Canada.

S178G "LONG RANGE SITE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT," Rob Heming, Ontario Camp Leadership Centre.

W180G "NORMALIZING SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS," David Sands, Illahee Northwoods Camp, Toronto, Ontario.

P184G "SIMPLE TECHNIQUES FOR ART OUTDOORS: NATURE CRAFTS," Ralph Ingleton, Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre, Downsview, Ontario.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

P223G "SCIENCE AND THE MIRACLE OF THE OUT-OF-DOORS," Susan V. Bosak, Ontario.

P241G "DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL AND SERVICE ETHICS: AN INDONESIAN CASE STUDY," Dr. Anthony Richards, Centre for Research on Youth, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia.

P257R "FAITH DEVELOPMENT AND ITS ROLE IN THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN A CAMPING EXPERIENCE," John Wilkinson, Ontario Theological Seminary, Toronto, Ontario.

R270G "STAFF DEVELOPMENT," Jocelyn Palm, Glen Bernard Camp, Willowdale, Ontario.

R277G "PROS AND CONS OF A FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM," Fred Okada, Family Service Association, Metro Toronto, Toronto, Ontario.

B278G "THE PRODUCT DELIVERY: PARADIGM FOR CAMPING SERVICES," Shannon Etkin, Family Service Association, Metro Toronto, Toronto, Ontario.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

W335S "NATIVE AND PIONEER PROGRAMS AT CAMP," Jack Pearse, John Jorgenson, Jane McCutcheon, Tom Knowlton, Jim Knowlton, Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario.

P348G "CAMPFIRES ARE MORE THAN SINGING—THEY ALSO INCLUDE GAMES, SKITS, STUNTS AND STORIES," Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon, Tom Knowlton, Jim Knowlton, Camp Tawingo, Huntsville, Ontario.

P378G "WILDERNESS ETHICS," Ted Scrutten, AEE, Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

R386G "REFLECTIVE PRACTICE AS A METHOD OF IN-SERVICE STAFF DEVELOPMENT," Robert H. Horwood, AEE, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

P389E "LIFE SKILLS TRAINING FOR THE SINGLE PARENT FAMILY OR DISADVANTAGED," Fred Okada, Family Services Association, Metro Toronto, Toronto, Ontario.

R402G "YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING WITH THE YOUTH OF TODAY," Dorothy Walter, Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, Resource Centre, Toronto, Ontario.

R459G "EMERGENCY PROCEDURES," Marjorie Booth, Mooredale Day Camp, Toronto, Ontario.

CLOSING BANQUET: MUSIC BY JACK PEARSE AND THE BOYS CAMP BAND.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

ASSISTANTSHIPS IN OUTDOOR TEACHER EDUCATION

Northern Illinois University

More than a dozen graduate teaching assistantships are available at the Field Campus in Outdoor Teacher Education at Northern Illinois University for the 1987 - 88 school year.

These assistantships involve outdoor teaching at the Lorado Taft Field Campus, Oregon, Illinois. Because the teaching is primarily with public school students and university juniors and seniors, priority is given to those applicants who have had several years of experience in the elementary or secondary public schools or outdoor schools. Applicants who have nature centre and/or camping experience will also be considered.

The assistantships pay a stipend of $320 per month for nine months and include a waiver of tuition for three semesters. Room and board is included for the fall and spring semesters when groups are in residence.

Applications and further information may be received by writing to Dr. Clifford E. Knapp, P.O. Box 299, Lorado Taft Field Campus, Oregon, IL 61061. (815) 732-2111.

For a complete listing of twenty-four courses and degree opportunities offered in Outdoor Teacher Education, write to Dr. Knapp at the address above.

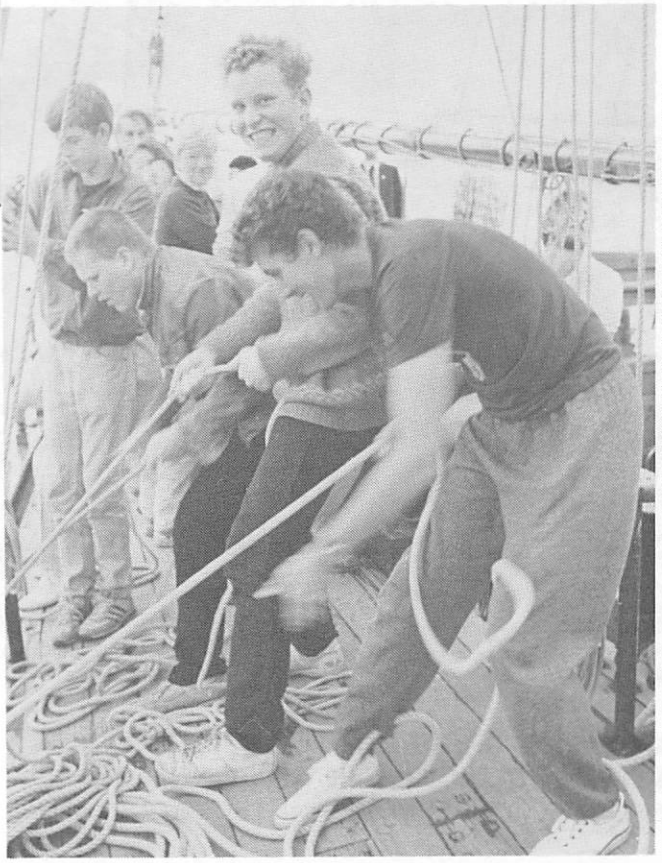


PHOTO FROM TORONTO BRIGANTINE INC.

The callouses will go away, the memories of you and your shipmates lasts a lifetime! (Note the most distant head (eyes & head only) is Sir Edmund Hillary . . . June '86 on board Pathfinder. — You're only limited by the size of your dreams!

1 **DR. J. HARRY EBBS**
FIRST PRESIDENT, SOCIETY OF CAMP DIRECTORS

2 **ADELE EBBS**
PRES, O.C.A.
PRES, SOC. CAMP DIRS.
CHAIR, CCA ARCHIVES CTE.

3 **JUNE LABBETT**
PRES, SOC. CAMP DIRS.
CHAIR, OCA EDN CTE.

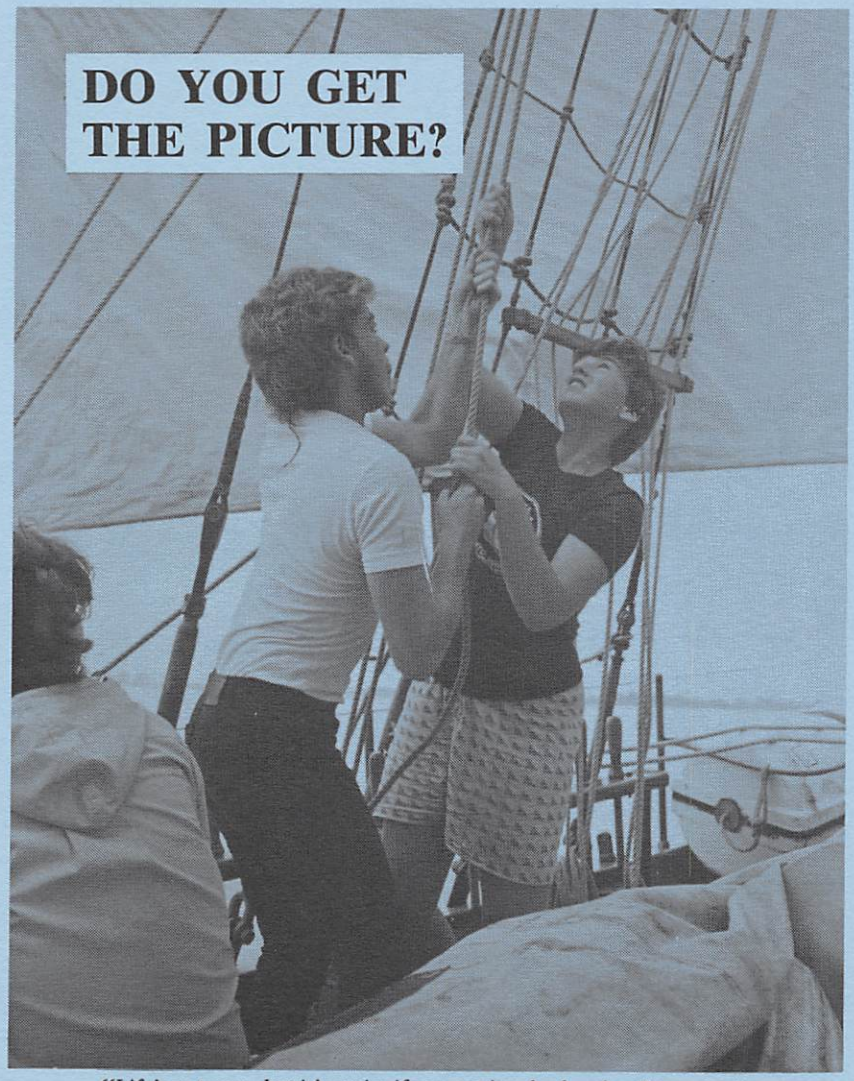
4 **MAY BROWN**
PRES. C.C.A.
PRES. B.C.C.A.

5 **CLIFF LABBETT**
PRES., V.P., TREAS — CCA
PRES, TREAS — OCA
PRES — SOC. CAMP DIRS.

6 **JOHN GILCHRIST**
V.P., TREAS O.C.A.
PRES, SOC. CAMP DIRS.

7 **BARB GILCHRIST**
PRES — OCA
BOARD — CCA
CHAIR, OCA ARCHIVES CTE.

8 **LORNE BROWN**
PRES. B.C.C.A.
1ST PRES BC OUTDOOR EDUCATORS
CHAIR, CCA NATURE LORE CTE.



"Life's not easy, but it's easier if you get involved and pull together"

Look what we are looking for — for a new look in the CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE!

PICTURES PICTURES PICTURES PICTURES PICTURES

Please send along the pick of your pix from the camping season. Toronto Brigantine Incorporated did and they have several pictures throughout this issue, including the one above.

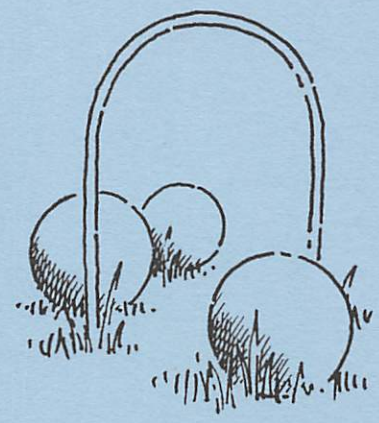
SEND PICTURES OF:

SITES & FACILITIES
CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS
MOOD & NATURE
ACTIVITIES & PROGRAM
CAMPERS & STAFF

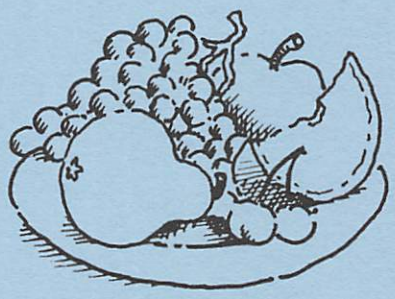
SEND PICTURES TO:

CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE
R.R. # 1
HUNTSVILLE, ONTARIO
P0A 1K0

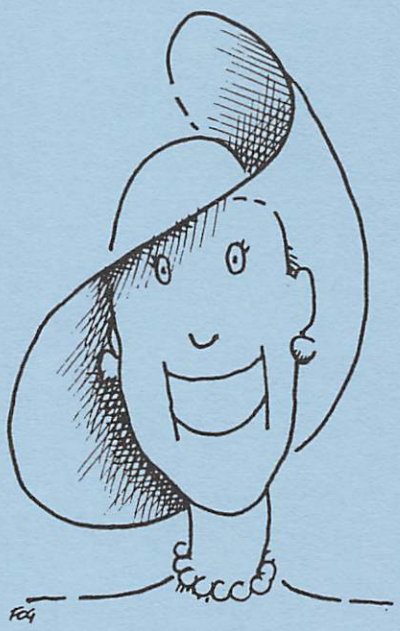
We are ready to use black and white prints and good contrast colour prints, slides or negatives.



Xaviera's sport



Xaviera's snack



Xaviera's smile

PARTICIPACTION MAKES PERFECT

PARTICIPACTION ©

POSTMASTER / MAIL CARRIER
If undelivered after five days, please return copies to the editorial offices:
CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE
Canadian Camping Association
1806 Avenue Rd., Suite 2
Toronto, Ontario M5M 3Z1

MAITRE DE POSTES / FACTEUR
Si non-livré après 5 jours S.V.P. retournez les copies aux bureaux des éditoriaux:
CANADIAN CAMPING MAGAZINE
Canadian Camping Association
1806 Avenue Rd., Suite 2,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1

British Columbia Camping Association
1200 Hornby St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2E2
Phone: (604) 687-3333

Alberta Camping Association
c/o Y.M.C.A., 332 6th Ave. S.W.,
Calgary, Alta. T2P 0R5
Phone: (403) 269-6156

Saskatchewan Camping Association
c/o Saskatoon Y.M.C.A.
25 - 22 St. East
Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 0C7
Phone: (306) 652-7515 ext. SCA

Manitoba Camping Association
Admin. Centre for Recreation and Sport
1700 Ellice Ave.
Winnipeg, Man. R3H 0B1
Phone: (204) 786-5641

Ontario Camping Association
1806 Avenue Road, Suite 2,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3Z1
Phone: (416) 781-0525

Association des Camps du Québec
4545 Pierre de Coubertin
Montréal, Québec
H1V 3R2
(514) 252-3113

New Brunswick Camping Association
P.O. Box 263
Moncton, New Brunswick E1C 8K9
506-853-3333 (Ian Fowler)

Nova Scotia Camping Association
Box 3243 S.
Halifax, N.S. B3J 3H5
Phone: (902) 424-4329

Newfoundland and Labrador Camping Association
Box 192
St. John's, Nfld. A1C 5J2

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION DES CAMPS DU CANADA - PUBLICATION OFFICIELLE
VOL. 38, NO. 3
WINTER 1987

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Canadian Camping Magazine is the official publication of the Canadian Camping Association. Editorial offices of the Magazine are located at R.R. #1, Huntsville, Ontario, P0A 1K0.

Membership in the C.C.A., as a result of membership in a provincial camping association, includes a subscription to the Magazine. Non member subscription is $8.00/year. Single issue price is $2.00. Make cheques payable to the Canadian Camping Association. Send subscriptions, submissions, or address changes to the editorial offices.

Canadian Camping Magazine is published four times yearly. Deadlines for submissions are October 1, December 1, February 15 and May 1. Material in Canadian Camping Magazine may not be reproduced in any form without the expressed written permission of the editor. Copyright 1986 Canadian Camping Association.

LES INFORMATIONS DE LA SOUSCRIPTION

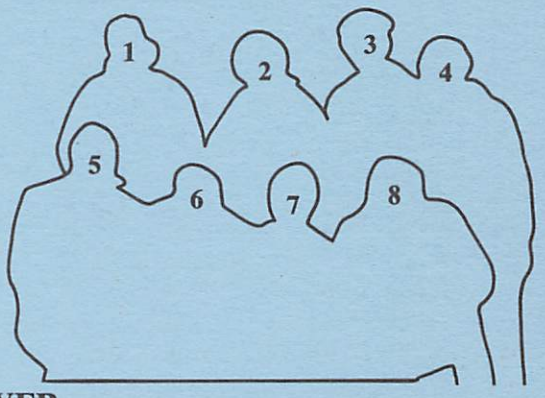
Canadian Camping Magazine est la publication officielle de l'Association des Camps du Canada. Les bureaux de la rédaction se trouvent à R.R. # 1, Huntsville, Ontario P0A 1K0.

L'adhésion à l'A.C.C., le résultat de l'adhésion à une association provinciale, comprend une souscription à la revue. La souscription pour ceux qui ne sont pas les membres coûte $8.00 par an. Une livraison coûte $2.00. Faites les chèques à l'ordre de "Canadian Camping Association". Envoyez les souscriptions, les soumissions ou les changements d'adresse aux bureaux de la rédaction.

Canadian Camping Magazine est publi quatre fois par an. Les dates limites pour les soumissions sont le 1er octobre, le 1er décembre, le 15ème février et le 1er mai. Les matéraux daus "Canadian Camping Magazine" ne peuvent pas être reproduit sans autorisation de l'éditeur. Copyright 1986 Canadian Camping Association.

If you would like to receive a complete English translation of any article in Canadian Camping Magazine, send a stamped self addressed envelope with your request to Canadian Camping Magazine, R.R. #1, Huntsville, Ontario P0A 1K0.

Si vous voudriez recevoir une traduction complète en français d'un article dans Canadian Camping Magazine, envoyez une enveloppe timbrée pour la réponse avec votre demande à: Canadian Camping Magazine, R.R. #1, Huntsville, Ontario P0A 1K0.



COVER

The cover photo was taken at a Canadian Camping Association Conference at Banff, Alberta in February, 1963. The photo features 2 C.C.A. Presidents, 5 Provincial Presidents, 5 Presidents of the Society of Camp Directors. Can you identify these distinguished Camping leaders? There are some helpful hints on page 30.

LA COUVERTURE

La couverture met en vedette deux ACC/CCA Présidentes, cinq Présidentes Provinciaux, cinq Présidentes de la Société des Directeurs des Camps qui ont assisté au Congrès de ACC/CCA, Banff L'Alberta, Février 1963. Voulez-vous quelqu'un identifier? Eh bien, avez recours à page 30.